

Bay Area Reporter

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395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

Say It With Flowers



Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland

Irwin Keller (left) applauds AIDS Legal Referral Panel Executive Director Kristin C. Chambers at ALRP's annual reception at the City Club of San Francisco Nov. 10. Among the awards handed out that evening were Volunteer of the Year - Arthur M. Newmark, Community Service Award - Saatchi & Saatchi and the Clint Hockenberry Award - Ora S. Prochovnick.

Tessie Survives, Moves to Unitarian Church

Everything Lost in Fire; Volunteers Sought

by Dennis Conkin

The annual Tenderloin Tessie Thanksgiving Dinner was burned out of its usual home by the arson that gutted historic St. Paulus Lutheran Church last week, but organizers have already found a new location for next week's feast.

The annual event, which is more than two decades old, will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. at the First Unitarian Church, located at 1187 Franklin at Geary, on Thanksgiving Day, November 23.

"Because we just found a place, and because of the disruption, we will probably serve 500 people instead of a thousand this

year," organizer A. L. Allen told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

The event is an institution among low-income lesbian and gay Tenderloin residents, many of whom are seniors.

Because all of the equipment at St. Paulus perished in the fire, Allen said organizers "need everything - from pots and pans to turkeys and salads. We need people who can cook and help set up and serve, whether it's for a half-hour or an hour." ▼

For more information, or to make a donation of food or cash, contact Allen at (415) 921-5026.

CHIPS Ready To Match PWAs With Housing

by Mary Ann Swissler

After months of slow or no client placements for PWAs with housing needs, San Francisco's Centralized Housing and Information Placement Service (CHIPS) will soon be getting up to speed, according to its program director.

CHIPS began one year ago under a lottery system to coordinate 70 rental subsidies and shelter programs offered by government and private agencies, according to Barbara Levy, Program Director at Independent Housing Services. So far 200 clients have been housed.

"We're now at the point where we're ready to move ahead pretty

rapidly, because various housing providers associated with the program now have large numbers of their rental subsidies which they need to distribute," Levy told the *Bay Area Reporter*. Still, she added, "It won't nearly match the need," nor speed through the more than 2,000 names on the waiting list.

The CHIPS program covers all existing and planned HIV/AIDS housing programs receiving funds from the Department of Public Health, San Francisco Redevelopment Agency, and the federal Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS (HOPWA). Unlike commercial agencies that match up landlords and renters, owners aren't lining up - here in the Bay Area or in the rest of the country

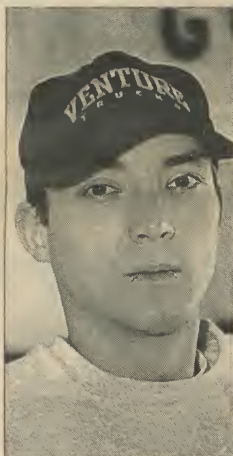


Photo: Rick Gerhart

No. 1,124: Edward Zold.

- despite the fact that rent vouchers for AIDS housing tend to be more remunerative than average. "There's a limited amount of housing, and the CHIPS program cannot change that," Levy said.

Meetings in July

"It's taken a long time to start up to get past the preliminary stages," Levy acknowledged. For whatever reason, it wasn't until July that intake workers at five access sites in the city began meeting face-to-face with clients and conducting comprehensive

Continued on page 20

\$25K Reward Offered In Murder of Gay Man

by Dennis Conkin

The investment brokerage firm of Charles Schwab and Company has issued a \$25,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of the person or persons responsible for the brutal murder of Gary Patock, 37, a popular Schwab senior operations manager.

Patock's body was discovered in an open dog run area behind St. John's Elementary School in the Glen Park District on October 27. The area where he was found was across the street from his house.

The immediate cause of death was listed as blunt trauma injury to the head, according to the coroner's office.

A gay man, Patock had been employed by the brokerage company since 1989. A memorial service was held at Schwab shortly after the murder. Funeral services for Patock were held in Chicago earlier this month.

According to San Francisco Homicide Inspector Armand Gordon, the police "are actively investigating" Patock's brutal murder.

"Neither I nor my partner, Inspector Jim Bergstrom, believe this was a hate crime or that he was randomly attacked by someone he did not know," Gordon told the *Bay Area Reporter*. Both men are considered expert investigators.

"He was highly respected in his neighborhood as well as in his business," Gordon said. "No one has said anything bad about Gary Patock to us."

Gordon declined to release any more information about the investigation except to say that police were exploring "several different avenues" in the homicide. ▼

Anyone with information should contact Gordon or Bergstrom at (415) 553-1145; nights and weekends contact SF Police Operations Center at (415) 553-1071.



Gary Patock

Give Thanks, Yes, But Give Help, Too!

by Mary Ann Swissler

Turkey, stuffing, and yams, oh my!

Not everyone can look forward to the traditional November *gourmanderie* we Americans call Thanksgiving. For those who want to make the season a little more meaningful, here are a few ways to help people who would otherwise go underfed next Thursday:

On Thanksgiving morning, The Salvation Army needs people with cars to deliver meals to those who cannot get out. At noon they will also be serving 1,500 Thanksgiving meals at the St.

Francis Hotel in an event co-sponsored by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation. Call 864-7000 for more information.

Also at noon, St. Francis Lutheran Church, located on 152 Church Street, near Market, will serve a free Thanksgiving meal. They are looking for volunteers for meal preparation on Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning, for servers from noon to 2 p.m. on Thursday, and a cleanup crew. Dessert dishes are also welcome. Call (415) 621-2635.

And of course, Tenderloin Tessie needs help in her new

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One of the art pieces to be auctioned off to benefit ACT UP East Bay. See AIDS File, page 20.



FIRST OF TWO SECTIONS

▼ Community Dental Update ▼



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COMMUNITY NEWS

Sour Milk Member Vows To Oppose Migden

by Dennis Conkin

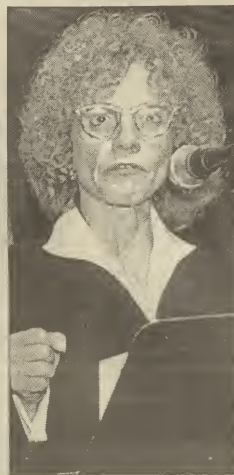
A long-simmering and very nasty behind-the-scenes political dispute burst into open and intense political warfare this week when Harvey Milk club member and gay attorney Paul Melbostad vowed to find a candidate to oppose fellow club member Supervisor Carole Migden's bid for the state Assembly.

Melbostad made the announcement a day after the November 13 special endorsement meeting of the Harvey Milk Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club at the Women's Building.

The club endorsed Assembly Speaker Willie Brown for mayor in next month's run-off election, prompting Melbostad to charge that Migden made a political deal long ago to endorse Brown, in exchange for his endorsement in her race, at the expense of the lesbian and gay community and its political future.

"This is absolutely going to be an issue in the lesbian and gay community as Carole seeks election," Melbostad says.

Melbostad's anger goes back to the earlier phase of the mayoral race, when Migden had supported Brown over openly lesbian candidate Roberta Achtenberg. "She made a specific and very active effort to undermine the most progressive gay candidate for her own agenda," he told the B.A.R. "Gay empowerment is not about



Carole Migden

one gay candidate stabbing another gay candidate in the back to promote herself, and that's what I see as the crux of it."

Melbostad said the issue is not the endorsement of Brown but political skulduggery by Migden and her campaign operation.

"If she had merely said that she had endorsed Willie Brown before Roberta announced and that she

had to stick by her candidate, that's understandable. But she actively worked to undermine Roberta's campaign and the gay club endorsement process. That's unacceptable," he told the B.A.R.

"I supported Roberta for mayor, and I've supported Carole in all her previous campaigns, including her campaign for Community College Board way back in 1982," he said.

He went on to accuse Migden and her campaign staff of actively working against Achtenberg, and stacking the lesbian and gay political club with memberships in order to swing its endorsement.

"I was active in the Milk Club's endorsement process," Melbostad said. "I know at least 50 people on the list who were either paid staff members of Willie Brown, people seeking political appointments, elected officials, and staff members of elected officials."

Migden declined to discuss the specifics of Melbostad's comments.

"I understand that there are going to be residual feelings and disappointments as a result of the election. I understand that and I certainly am not going to engage in name calling," Migden told the Bay Area Reporter.

"There are diverse opinions in the community and naturally that should be welcomed."

The vote to endorse Brown by the Club was 50-4. ▼

Frank Jordan Addresses Dubocers

Willie Brown a no-show

by Hakeem Oseni II

Obviously proud of his accomplishments and tough decisions over the past three years, Mayor Frank Jordan explained to the Duboce Triangle Neighborhood Association Monday, November 13 why he should be re-elected.

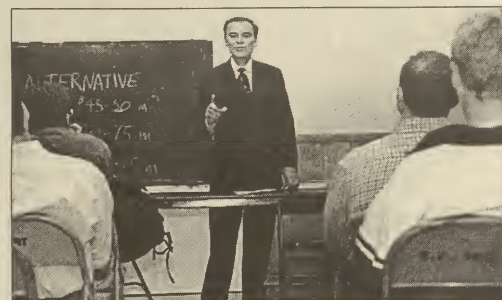
"When I became mayor, this city was in a crisis," he said, adding that today San Francisco is ranked top in the nation and second worldwide for tourism and trade. "We've never had that happen in San Francisco," he observed.

Speaking calmly and sincerely to a small crowd of about 20, the mayor discussed his efforts in dealing with the city's homeless problem, public housing, Muni, and the elimination of "crime and grime."

The mayor praised the success of his Matrix homeless program, which received \$24 million from Housing and Urban Development in Washington, while larger cities such as New York only received \$12 million. Saying that it was necessary to acknowledge there are several very different subgroups within the homeless population, Jordan pledged, "If [the homeless] meet us halfway, we'll meet them more than halfway."

He also spoke of plans to demolish the city's concrete projects and erect town houses. "People need to have doors facing the street so they feel part of the community," he said.

"I'd like to see people own their own property," he told listen-



Mayor Jordan at Monday night's meeting: "I don't care about political repercussions - I want the city to work."

ers, adding that his efforts so far to increase the city's 32 percent home ownership have been blocked by the board of supervisors.

"I've been making tough decisions and people don't understand them or see them," he said. "I don't care about political repercussions - I want the city to work."

Jordan also addressed problems at Muni, saying he can save the city \$10 million a year by changing or eliminating ten of the Union's 20 work rules that he believes are the root of the transportation system's inefficiency. One rule, he explained, does not allow a Muni supervisor to call in or punish a driver who does not show up for a shift - even after as many as 16 such no-shows a year.

"Then another worker has to be

called in, at time-and-a-half," he said. "Eighty percent of the problem is workers not showing up for work."

He went on to say rules prevented him from installing path monitoring devices on Muni to prevent "bunching-up" on routes and ensure 15 minute intervals. He also accused them of "deliberately causing delays."

Jordan also accused adversary Willie Brown, who was invited to the meeting but did not show up, of leaving the California House of Assembly in shambles. The mayor said a "conflict of interest" in Brown's acceptance of money from the Police Department and Muni, and the promise of millions more than he could possibly deliver in return, "is bringing machine politics back to the city." ▼

Photo: Rick Gerhart

Briggs Leaves LGADDA For Career As Performer

by Mary Ann Swissler

Lesbians and Gays of African Descent for Democratic Action (LGADDA) co-chair Kenya Briggs has announced that she will be leaving the San Francisco political organization to step into a different kind of spotlight.

Briggs, a native of San Francisco, has served as Political Action Committee chair since August, after working as co-chair and treasurer for LGADDA, and had originally planned to leave in January. "But after this [mayoral election] endorsement process, I realized I'd have to jump into the next March endorsement" for the State Assembly race, she told the *Bay Area Reporter*. She soon realized "there'd always be something," and so she bid adieu.

And in doing so, she said hello again to the singing and acting career she left behind a few years ago when she got into broadcast journalism in the Los Angeles area, and subsequent political organizing and self-employment back in the Bay Area.

"I'm real happy about the time I spent in LGADDA. I've grown a lot doing that, and I'm looking forward to coming

home," Briggs said. In addition to getting an insider's view of San Francisco politics, she said the learning experience will pay off in other arenas as well: "I know that it will make me a better performer."

Not that she's lacking the experience. Briggs sang with the San Francisco Girl's Chorus as a teenager before leaving for college, where she earned a degree in opera from the University of Southern California. From there, she toured Europe.

Her current artistic home is with the San Francisco Choral Society, featuring classical choral music. "That's what I really came up in," she explained. An upcoming concert at the LGADDA Kwanzaa celebration will feature the voices of Briggs, LGADDA newsletter editor and volunteer attorney for the AIDS Legal Referral Panel Ron Hypolite, and treasurer Andre Morgan.

Her main goal is to get back into the kind of theater productions where she can incorporate singing, Briggs said. "In the beginning of the new year, I'll get into the theater and start taking some workshops," she said.



Kenya Briggs.

Briggs does not foresee a complete end to her activism work, however. "I care about my future and the future of my community. How could I not?"

"I think it's a duty that everyone has," even to make a small contribution of time or money, Briggs added.

"You can't rely on other people to win your battles for you." ▼

What's in a Name? LGADDA Discussion Tonight

by Dennis Conkin

A panel discussion about the possibility of changing the name of Lesbian and Gays of African Descent For Democratic Action to include bisexuals and transgenders is set for today (Thursday, November 16) at the group's general membership meeting.

Donald Tarver, MD of the LGADDA steering committee will convene a panel to discuss the need for bisexual and transgender inclusion, and whether the group needs to change its name.

"The answer to the above question is yes," Tarver said in the November *LGADDA News*. "The obvious exclusion of bisexuals and transgenders of African

descent was opposed by a few of the founding members of LGADDA—including me."

The event is not an occasion to debate the proposed name change, which requires a motion to amend the bylaws, but a panel discussion. Panel members will include bisexual and transgender members of the group.

Tarver noted in the newsletter that there have been bisexual members, and one former co-chair of the group is transgender, and said the time has come to change the name of the group to reflect the diversity of membership.

The monthly LGADDA meeting will be held at 507B Divisadero Street, between Fell and Hayes streets, at 7 p.m. ▼

Breakfast, Candidates' Night Out On the Island

by Mary Ann Swissler

The Alameda lesbian and gay activist organization Out On The Island (OOTI) sealed its role as kind of a queer Jaycees of the East Bay by hosting a community breakfast and candidates' night, two events where messages of hope and strength through diversity were broadcast loud and clear.

Thirty people turned out Thursday, November 9 for Out On The Island's Candidates' Night to listen to the two candidates for the March 1996 State Assembly race, Oakland City Council member Denzie Woods-Jones and Don Perata. They were followed by candidates for the State Senate seat, Assembly-member Barbara Lee and Assem-

blymember Bob Campbell.

More than 50 people attended the Saturday, November 11 breakfast held at the Christ Episcopal Church in Alameda, including clergy, OOTI members, and many straight friends from the community.

The Reverend Michael Yoshii, an OOTI founder, spoke movingly about the parallels between Japanese-American citizens during World War II and current struggles for human rights by the gay and lesbian community. Rose Mireles and biotech entrepreneur Morten Wellhaven prepared a traditional Scandinavian breakfast. Other speakers that morning included Reverend Dan Herth, Cindy Acker, Reverend Larry Schulz, and Robb Alongi. ▼

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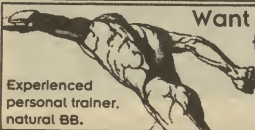
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Coming Home Nurse Awarded National Honor

by Dennis Conkin

A San Francisco gay man who is both the charge nurse at Coming Home Hospice and a psychotherapist has received honors for his clinical skills from a national hospice group.

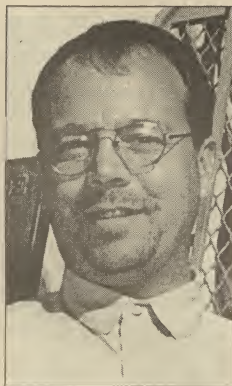
Tom Grothe, RN MSCC, accepted the Heart Of Hospice Clinician of the Year award from the National Hospice Organization at an annual conference banquet in Phoenix, Arizona on Thursday, November 9. According to Grothe, NHO has advocated for hospice care for people with AIDS at the end of their lives since the beginning of the epidemic.

"I used the podium to encourage hospices to continue to look for ways in which they can care for people with AIDS," he told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

"It isn't always easy to fit AIDS care into a hospice program, and that's part of what I do now, teach how to reach out and how to provide hospice care for people with AIDS."

Grothe said that some obstacles to caring for people with AIDS in hospices around the country arise because AIDS is a relatively new disease that brings new patient populations to hospices for terminal care. Those patients may include people who have been homeless, or people with AIDS who have other diagnoses including mental illness or injection substance abuse.

"Hospice traditionally is for people with cancer, who have



Honoree Tom Grothe.

tried chemotherapy or radiation but whose illnesses have progressed to a terminal stage," he said.

But the course of AIDS is unlike the course of any other disease, Grothe said, and hospice staffs must adapt their care accordingly.

Grothe has been a registered nurse for 14 years, has worked in the hospice setting for a dozen years, and has been charge nurse at Coming Home Hospice for eight years.

"I'm a tired old thing. I remember Polk Street and the first few Castro Street Fairs," he said.

UC Berkeley graduate

Grothe said that he decided to become a nurse after receiving an undergraduate degree in biology from the University of California, Berkeley and a friend became terminally ill. Although he already has an advanced degree in the field, Grothe is continuing his education and is studying to become an adult nurse practitioner.

A hospice charge nurse works in a team with other hospice staff including physicians, other nurses, and clinical staff to ensure that patients are comfortable; that their symptoms, including pain, are controlled; and that any physical, emotional, or spiritual needs during the terminal phase of illness are identified and responded to.

Residential hospice care for people with AIDS like that provided by Coming Home Hospice, which is managed by Visiting Nurse/Hospice of San Francisco, is not all that common around the world yet, he said. There is much national and international interest in the variety of hospice services provided through Visiting Nurse Hospice, which also includes home nursing and hospice care.

Grothe also said the commitment of the lesbian and gay community, which raised the funds to create Coming Home as a place where PWAs could receive loving and humane care in the last stages of their lives, continues to be an inspiration.

"I'm a tired old thing, but Coming Home is truly amazing," he laughed. ▼

East Bay Burial Charity Faces Grim Financial Future

by Mary Ann Swissler

After ten years of raising money through bake sales, casino nights, and Christmas tree auctions to offset the costs of funerals for indigent people with AIDS, the Oakland-based "In Memory Foundation" is running out of steam.

According to IMF founder Val Souza, the organization provides grants of \$200 each, or about half the costs for cremation or a minimal burial. Some mortuaries take a loss on funerals, she said, but most do not. She told the *B.A.R.* she started the organization when no funds were available to bury a friend who had died in a hail of gunfire, and soon expanded it when AIDS-related deaths began to occur with grim frequency. Unfortunately, Souza said, although people are dying in ever-greater numbers, and the need for the foundation is stronger than ever,

contributors don't give as freely as they used to.

The day that Souza spoke with *The Bay Area Reporter*, she had tallied 595 PWAs — men, women, and children — that IMF helped bury. "It's very tough at times," she said, "especially when you see the babies go, you just cry sometimes. We just try to forget it until the next one comes along."

Equally difficult for Souza, she said, is knowing that there are still a number of people who do not practice safe sex.

Because of the financial difficulties faced by the In Memory Foundation, Souza said future grants will be restricted to East Bay residents unless and until the situation improves.

The next tree auction and bake sale will be held December 10. Call (510) 482-3577 if you would like to donate your time or provide any financial assistance. ▼

Milk Institute Raffles Dates

by Mary Ann Swissler

The Harvey Milk Institute's relationships workshop, "Don't Date Me Because I'm Beautiful: Dating Made Easy," was held Friday, November 10 at Fort Mason.

Like most schools, the institute had to get creative in order to stay afloat. Local celebrities Tom Ammiano, Terence Smith (without the wig and stockings of his Joan Jett Blakk persona), and publishing diva Wendy Jill York were on hand for a dating lottery to benefit the institute.

Ammiano commented on the

special niche that the school, now in its third semester, fills. "I think that in the academic world there is a lot of elitism," he said. "[The Harvey Milk Institute] is not only queer-sensitive, it values community."

Classes at the institute also provide a forum for the overflow of talent in this city, Ammiano said. "I think we have a lot of local heroes and they don't always have a place to share. This provides a showcase." ▼

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Safeway Settles Claim By Gay Ex-Employee

by Dennis Conkin

An out-of-court settlement has been reached between a gay man and Safeway Stores, Inc. over his dismissal as a checker at the Mission Street Safeway for "sexual harassment." The complaint was lodged by a customer who later admitted she was "just angry" at the time.

The financial terms of the settlement are confidential, checker Jaime Awad told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

"I signed a contract that I could not discuss the terms of the settlement. But I would like to publicly thank Supervisor Tom Ammiano and Howard Wallace and the Lesbian and Gay Labor Alliance for their help," Awad said.

Awad, a popular checker at the 29th/Mission Safeway, was dismissed earlier this year after a run-in with an irate customer. The shopper was unhappy with the way her groceries were being bagged by a new Safeway bagger — her frozen foods were not bagged together — and was angered by Awad's intervention into the situation.

"He told me that the bagger was new and I was unnecessarily embarrassing her," the customer wrote in a letter of complaint to



Former Safeway checker Jaime Awad claimed dismissal was part of a pattern of anti-gay incidents.

Safeway. "I told him that he could train her or I would, by demonstrating how I wanted my food bagged."

'I told him to fuck off'

According to Awad, he tried to remain civil to the customer, even though she was extremely argumentative and rude, and was swearing and shouting at the bagger and Awad.

"I told him to fuck off," the customer said in her letter — and

then she accused him of sexual harassment.

According to the woman's complaint, "One definition of sexual harassment is a man trying to make a woman act a certain way by making her feel stupid."

After she was contacted by a Safeway Human Resources staffer, the woman withdrew the complaint. Nevertheless, Safeway proceeded with disciplinary action against Awad — even though a witness signed a statement supporting his version of events.

Safeway initially declined to comment on the matter, saying that personnel matters were confidential by law, but denied through a spokeswoman that the chain was anti-gay.

"We have many gay employees, and an equal opportunity employment policy," spokeswoman Debra Lambert told the *Bay Area Reporter* shortly after Awad was terminated.

Awad said the incident was one of a pattern of anti-gay incidents at Safeway, and said he was terminated by the company after his active role in a employee strike.

Last July, Awad was forced to remove a pink triangle and a button condemning anti-gay violence, after a heterosexual woman customer complained.

The customer was later revealed to be dating one of Awad's heterosexual male co-workers. ▼

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by
Jan Medina

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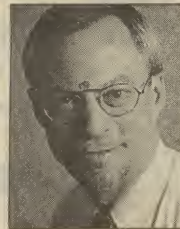
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Partygoers To Jockey for Position?

Short Fundraiser This Friday

by Dennis Conkin

Boxers, bikini briefs, and thongs will be among the festive wear the night of Friday, November 17 at Brief Encounters, an inaugural quarterly underwear party and gay community benefit to be held at the Playground, located at 74 Otis Street at South Van Ness, from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m.

The event will be co-hosted by three leading San Francisco gay groups: Community United Against Violence, the Asian AIDS Project, and the National Task Force on AIDS Prevention.

The underwear party is sponsored by Falcon, prophylactic and personal lubricant supplier Ramsell Corporation, and International Wavelength. Falcon Studios will also be using the occasion to premiere one of their latest releases, and go-go dancers will appear continually throughout the event.

"Boys of all colors, shapes, and sizes will be dancing in their briefest briefs, as DJ Justice mixes up a storm," said National Task Force on AIDS Prevention spokesperson Don Pharoah.

The event is designed to provide a fun, sex-positive space that encourages safer sex, according to organizers. "We wanted to create an inclusive space for every one," said Vince Sales of the Asian AIDS Project. "We purposely involved organizations that represented the full diversity of the gay community — African-American, Asian, Native American, white, and Latino."

Pharoah says is the event is sure to be a lot of fun — and a great success.

"The Asian AIDS Project puts on the best drag shows in the entire city," he told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "Miss Gay Universe at the Palace of Fine Arts is sold out every year. The Asian AIDS Project is nationally renowned for its prevention and care efforts in the Asian-Pacific Islander community. They are very gay-positive."

"It's really important in this time of rising HIV infection, especially among gay and bisexual men of color, that we need to continue HIV prevention and education in a sex-positive and effective way. But, most importantly, this will be a lot of fun," Pharoah said.

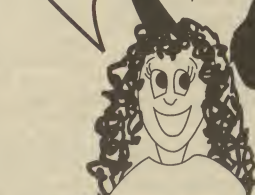
All proceeds from the event will benefit the hosting organizations. Community United Against Violence is a local lesbian and gay hate violence prevention and education group that serves victims of such crimes, including same-sex domestic violence.

The National Task Force on AIDS Prevention is an internationally acclaimed provider of HIV support and education services to communities of color in the Bay Area. ▼

Tickets are \$8 in advance, or \$10 at the door. Tickets can also be purchased at A Different Light bookstore or by calling 415 356-8108.

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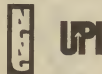
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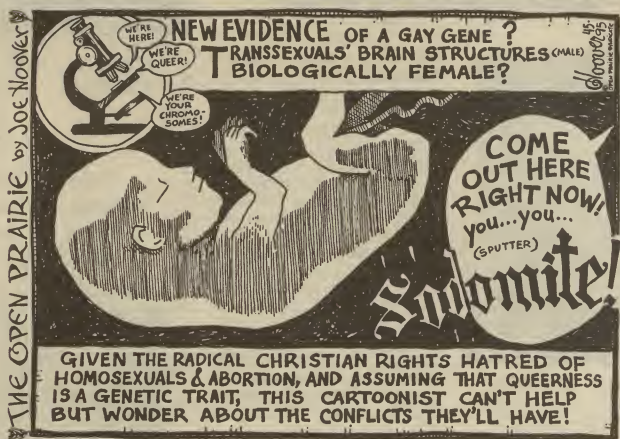
OPEN FORUM

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JOE HOOVER



EDITORIAL

So Far
Off The Track...

The great fiscal "train wreck" Gingrich promised all those months ago came to pass, as planned, in Washington this week. Like that Amtrak train that tumbled into an Arizona ravine last month, many factors led to the derailment of our government. In fact, as far as anyone can tell, the proximate factor was identical in each case: hatred of the politics of inclusion, multiplicity, diversity, and progression.

Now our so-called leaders in Washington are standing off and standing firm — as if it were possible to stand still and still lead — while the government stands down. There is no comfort at all in hearing the phrase "non-essential governmental services" used to describe the interrupted mechanics of our way of life, especially when the words come from the new GOPs who think all government is non-essential.

Before you believe that it is only national parks and museums that are affected, remember that — in this new context — 75 percent of the workers at the Centers for Disease Control are considered "non-essential." In other words, experiments will be abandoned, research will suffer, and people will die: "A little neglect breeds mischief," a pithy legislator once wrote. "For want of a nail, the shoe was lost; for want of a shoe the horse was lost; for want of a horse, the rider was lost." The result, of course, is that the war is lost. It's not a new concept — the legislator who wrote that was Benjamin Franklin — but we manage to forget it again and again, and allow our little neglects to have enormous consequences.

Of course, we could use a Ben Franklin right now, and not just to pith on us all from a great height. We could use his clear thinking in Washington, his awareness of the essential services of government, and his ability to roll up his sleeves and get something done. Instead we have Gingrich and Dole, the great train wreckers, and Alphonse D'Amato's Whitewater nonsense (the entire investigation/hearing costs of which have now topped \$25,000,000 — talk about your non-essential government), and the spectacle of Mr. and Rep. Waldholtz of Utah displaying their hilarious family values. Like they

say, if the opposite of pro is con, then the opposite of progress is...

Meanwhile, Israelis (and good people everywhere) have recently discovered indisputably that words *do* have consequences. That nation is trying to learn something from the assassination of its prime minister, and has had to admit its biggest problem came from religious fanatics living inside the country. Finally, we hear, some political and religious opposition figures have pledged to bring down the level of rhetoric, and try to use words to build bridges instead of walls.

We might say it would take a similar disaster here for some people to come to their senses, but we've had a few disasters of our own. There's that Arizona train derailment at the hands of right wing fanatics, which we mentioned at the beginning of this column but which has all but disappeared from the media's attention, and the Oklahoma City bombing (news of which has been thin and elusive of late, too). And rather than opening up the dialogue, obviously, it has had the opposite effect. Americans are still uncomfortable talking about the presence of terrorists, particularly those of the homegrown variety.

It is very important that we take a cue from Israel and make sure such things do get discussed. It's important for parents to know that every time they put their kids on a bus or train or plane to college, or to Grandma's, they are putting them in danger of being blown to bits by irrational Nazis — who are being coddled and courted by the more radical Republicans.

Right now, at least, it doesn't look like the country is buying what the GOP is selling these days. The latest polls show that over 60 percent are angry about the situation in Washington, and that most believe the Republicans are to blame. That's good news, but also bad for us: if they lose on this, you can expect them to go back to what they've done most successfully so far — peddling hatred of all kinds, a lot of which will be anti-gay.

That may be some people's idea of effective politics, but all it is to us is non-essential government services. ▼

GUEST OPINION

A Wake Up
Shot of OJ

by Khevin Lee LaGrone

There is a white backlash behind the OJ verdict. I listen to callers' diatribes on talk radio, and their "outrage" reminds me of the acquittal of four white officers by an all-white jury about three years ago. There are the same charges of racial allegiance and of ignoring evidence (i.e., the videotape of Rodney King's beating and transcripts of police joking about the beating). There are the same claims of lost faith in the system.

Black or white, we tend to be brutally honest when we're angry. Those white talk radio callers are no different... and there's no editor to soften their tone.

And there is no freshness in their invective. They simply reinvent the old notions of the black man as animalistic or as half-savage/half-child. Black men are portrayed as brutal and abusive. I hear the old stereotype of a faceless and nameless black mass that lacks thinking skills and is overwhelmed by emotions. We are not perceived to be individualistic or complex enough to have separate and independent issues; therefore, the verdict has been linked to affirmative action, Martin Luther King, Jr., Colin Ferguson, and white America's newest wonder boy — Colin Powell.

I hear the search for the one black voice in America. Many in white America seem to believe that there exists one black person who speaks for 33 million blacks. In addition, white America believes it has the judgment to anoint that one black "leader." A white conservative anoints Clarence Thomas; the white gay community anoints Marlon Riggs the black gay spokesperson. As if to fear that blacks follow that one "leader" like mesmerized sheep, a Jewish group voices opposition to Farrakhan. Without white input, we, the black mass, are assumed to be like lemmings, blindly following each other to the sea to drown.

But is America's racial chasm a concern for white gay media? Is there one color-blind gay America? Can a white gay person, who himself has been repressed (not oppressed), be a white supremacist?

Why not — white gay America is an offshoot of mainstream white America. A white gay liberal Democrat once told me, "I like you, you're not too black," and "You're different, you've been exposed to white people." He even told me, "You're not a 'real' black. You're a 'good' black."

Even my white gay friends do not want to give up their luxury of ignorance. When I asked them how upset America would have been if OJ had been accused of killing his first wife — a black woman — instead of Nicole, I heard, "I'm tired of this race thing" or "I don't want to hear about it [race] anymore." Yet there are plenty of discussions over whether or not black men have big dicks. (And the nagging question — "Are black men animals in bed?" — and the white gay magazine that objectifies black men as "fetish" both demonstrate that a community can fight sexual repression while eroticizing racial oppression.)

In the past, when I've tried to discuss my own racial slights, my anger was usually dismissed with a wave of my hand. When I tried to express my anger after an affront, I was told I should not dwell on it. I've been asked, "Why not be the wiser, mature one?" But I ask: why should I bear the burden and not confront the offender? Why should I play the wise and mature Uncle Remus or Mammy?

One America? One gay America? As far as I'm concerned, race relations in America needed a jolt of OJ — a jolt that rocks the gay media as well.

Now we can address our true racial feelings and stop sugarcoating them with "warm and fuzzy" clichés like "One people, one universe" or "I don't see color, I see people" or "We are one America." The verdict shook the lid off a pot that's been simmering much too long. For those who were too smug with the status quo I shout, "Wake up!" ▼

LETTERS

Shanti allegations

Simple fairness as well as fundamental journalistic ethics dictates a responsible newspaper, in publishing unsubstantiated allegations of improper conduct, give the parties accused an opportunity to respond to charges made against them. In your lead Page 1 article November 2 concerning the Shanti suit, you detail the charges of an accounting firm, which is itself the defendant in a related suit, regarding alleged improper management by former Shanti executives without any indication that you made the slightest effort to contact the individuals named to ascertain their side of the story.

Richard W. Nathan
San Francisco

[Editor's note: We have detailed the story at some length as it has unfolded over the past two years, including the "side" of "the individuals named." That position, that their actions were not irregular, has not changed simply because the accountants have filed suit. By the way, Shanti Executive Director Gloria Sandoval spoke to the B.A.R. the day the story appeared and said - with some astonishment in her voice, admittedly - it was accurate.]

Kudos for Danny Williams

Recently one of our community's favorite entertainers, Danny Williams, celebrated his birthday with a fundraiser at the Edge. For the past 12 years, this annual party has been raising money for the AIDS Emergency Fund, and this year was no exception. It is a great pleasure to announce that this year's event pulled in over \$1000, the highest raised so far.

Much of that success belongs to the individuals who donated items, their time or talent, as well as those who supported the event. A very large thank you to Eric and the staff of the Edge for being so generous.

Individuals and businesses that made this possible: Lo-Fats, Cafe Luna Pieta, Castro Hibachi, Cove Cafe, Ryan's, Moby Dick, Uncle Bert's, Pasqua, Daddy's, The Edge, Shan Carr, Brian Washman, Ted Fox, Britany Fox, Amy Dondy, Empress Donna, Emperor Brian, Sister Camille, Wolf Marisol, Phillip Turner, Kevin Angel, John Anderson, Andrew, and Cornelius.

Jacques Michaels
Nova Lei
Producers, Create-A-Victory, Inc.

Tales from the crypto

I am writing to clarify a point made in your November 2 edition concerning ACT UP/Golden Gates' report "Cryptosporidium: Current Issues in Biology, Law, Medicine and Water Quality." In the article entitled "ACT UP/SF Zaps Crypto Task Force Meeting," it was reported that "[The ACT UP/Golden Gate report] noted that the state had previously reprimanded the San Francisco water district for its failure to aggressively monitor the parasite's presence." This was not found in the ACT UP/Golden Gate report. Our report did, however, note the following:

- The city was twice cited and fined for failing to monitor fecal coliform levels during July 1995. Fecal coliform bacteria are bacteria that inhabit the colon of humans and animals and are excreted in their feces. Fecal coliforms are monitored because they can cause disease and are also very important indicators of water quality.

- The city was cited for twice allowing poorly treated water into the drinking water supply during March 1995. High levels of cryptosporidium were found in treated water sold to the Alameda County Water District by San Francisco Water Department.

- As a result of the March 1995 treatment failures, the state required regular monitoring for cryptosporidium. High levels of cryptosporidium were found in some samples. According to a city-sponsored report: "Presumptive Cryptosporidium oocysts were found in 17 of 59 samples (29%) at seasonal average levels of up to 7/100 liters."

- The city's own statistics show there are seventy-two people in San Francisco who get cryptosporidiosis from the drinking water. The city has acknowledged a one in ten-thousand annual risk of getting cryptosporidiosis per year. As the 1990 population was 723,959, this equates to 72 cases per year.

- The Department of Public Health's bizarre claims regarding anal-oral as the primary means of transmission are overwhelmingly refuted by the literature on cryptosporidium.

While we commend Supervisor Migden for starting the task force, ACT UP/Golden Gate is disappointed by the lack of progress it has made. Dr. Mitch Katz's obstinacy and refusal to accept valid scientific evidence reflect poorly on both himself and the Department of Public Health. Should the task force wish to remain relevant, it needs to allow meaningful, public debate of the issues.

Copies of our report are available from ACT UP/Golden Gate at (415) 252-9200.

Rob Sabados
Cryptosporidium Committee
ACT UP/Golden Gate

Supporting the arts in City Hall

[The following was sent to Mayor Frank Jordan:] "Art From the Heart Heals" would like to take this opportunity to thank you for allowing us to exhibit our artworks in your office. The opening that we had on October 16, 1995 was well received by the community and truly boosted the esteem of all artists involved in the exhibit.

The amount of time that your staff spent with us and their positive attitude about dealing with all of us, under trying circumstances is certainly appreciated. The sensitivity of everyone, including the secretarial staff, was most commendable considering all the noise we made hanging the exhibit.

The letter of recommendation that you sent to the Mission Latino Cultural Center was of great assistance. We have now been accepted by them for a showing in February, 1996.

Because of the exhibit and the people that attended the exhibit, we have been offered several other places to display our art. The ideas from your speech are certainly true. Living with AIDS is a challenge, and the support we got from our Mayor Frank Jordan makes it all worthwhile.

Clifton E. Cox
Executive Director,
"Art From the Heart Heals"

A place for art

Regarding Dennis Conkin's story about the "Art from the Heart Heals" exhibit, I am surprised that he did not take the time to praise the mayor or his office staff for providing a public space for these artists. I was at the opening reception. The mayor was proud to be able to have the artwork hanging in his office. A first. He spoke very positively about the work and the artist. The mayor asked two of the mothers of artists up to the front of the room so that we could show our love and support for them, and the love and support they give their children dying of this horrible disease.

I have seen and even purchased Josie Parker's work. And I believe there is a place for all art. A swastika in the Mayor's office, as a gay Jewish person this is offensive to me. For Mr. Parker to go crying to your paper offends me even more. Why is it that once Mr. Parker agreed to the ground rules, as he did, he cries censorship? Josie, there is a place for all art. The mayor's office is not and should not be a forum for your rage. The mayor of San Francisco, regardless of who she or he is, must answer to all the people of the city. Showing heart-filled art is a gift to these artists. I feel Josie and the B.A.R. were the ones being unprofessional. Perhaps the B.A.R. could have used the ink and space to show just how positive, beautiful, and worthy this show is.

My thanks to the mayor and his staff, for making this show a dream for many true artists, a reality.

Daniel P. Bergerac
Berkeley, CA

[Um ... our profession is to report on the news - and Parker's claim was news- so we don't see how doing exactly that could be called unprofessional. And frankly, we thought we did show how positive and worthy the show is.]

Disabled parking privileges

I have had AIDS for several years now. Because I have chronic peripheral neuropathy (a degenerative nerve condition in the extremities that results in severe pain, numbness, and "false messages" being sent to the brain), I finally decided to request a disabled parking placard for my car. I submitted the paperwork and received my placard approximately six weeks ago.

Today I pulled into a disabled parking spot in the Walgreen's parking lot on Castro Street in Noe Valley. The lot was crowded and several cars were waiting for places. As I stepped out of my car, a man waiting for a spot yelled to me that I was in a handicapped parking place. I informed him I had the placard. He made a derogatory remark about the kind of car I was driving, suggesting that a handicapped person shouldn't be driving such a nice car.

As I was backing out of my parking place after finishing my shopping at Walgreen's, another man walked in front of my car and yelled, "You sure don't look handicapped and you sure don't act handicapped."

It's difficult to describe how these incidents made me feel. On one level I know that it's nobody's business but my doctor's, the state's, and my own as to whether I'm entitled to the placard. But on another level, I was hurt and disgusted that in San Francisco in 1995 there can be such ignorance. What I would like the two rude men to know is that I was awake until 4:00 a.m. the night before unable to sleep because my feet and ankles hurt so badly. Looks can be deceiving. I certainly couldn't tell by their appearance that they were stupid, ignorant, insensitive oafs. But they were.

In the future, please think before you open your mouth.

Steven M. Kolesar
San Francisco

"I thought I needed a doctor.
I really needed a teacher
...a collaborator."

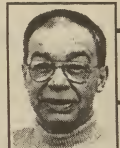
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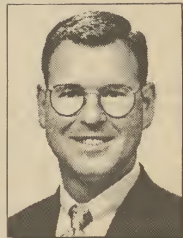
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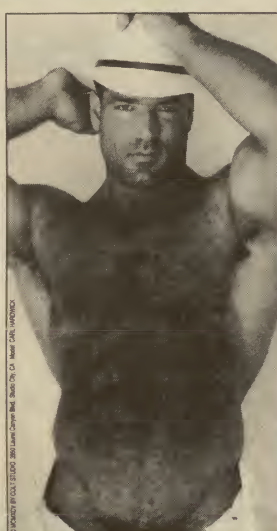
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LETTERS

Through the looking glass

I just picked up today's issue, and I thought my eyes were playing tricks on me! Did you really mean to endorse Frank Jordan? What could you have been thinking of?

The same Frank Jordan who ordered the infamous Castro Sweep in 1989 and whose officers beat gays and lesbians senseless with a baton? The same Frank Jordan who harasses the homeless in hopes maybe they will just disappear? The same Frank Jordan who has not done one thing to clean up graffiti and trash off any of our streets and has allowed Muni to deteriorate until it's almost a joke?

Harvey Milk said many years ago that it is not good enough to just elect friends. We must elect our own, and you missed the perfect opportunity to make history with Roberta Achtenberg. Obviously, you don't know your history or haven't been reading Harvey Milk's works.

I never thought I would live long enough to see our own gay and lesbian newspaper endorse a homophobe like Jordan. I feel like Alice and I truly have gone through the looking glass!

Tim Mansfield
San Francisco

Dumb and dumber

After reading your endorsement for mayor I have one thought: Wasn't it the now-defunct *Sentinel's* job to make dumb-assed endorsements?

Ronny Marshall-Trimble
San Francisco

Jordan, the progressive

I read with profound disbelief your endorsement of Frank Jordan for Mayor, and I would like to congratulate the B.A.R. editorial staff for their equally profound courage in issuing this endorsement.

I am sure when you issued this endorsement you were aware that you would receive a wave (perhaps of tidal proportions) of vehement criticism. This is where the courage factor comes in. This your critics will not be able to dismiss, and this makes the B.A.R. endorsement perhaps the most significant of this mayor's race.

As a gay citizen of San Francisco, I feel Mayor Jordan has represented me as citizen — not just a "gay citizen" with a vote to be cultivated. His representation of me as a citizen has not been patronizing nor manipulative of my sexual orientation status for the purpose of securing a vote. I find this appealing, but it is not the reason I second the B.A.R. on this endorsement.

If the word "progressive" is equivalent to the word progress, then Mayor Jordan is the only "true progressive" in this race. I can think of no better example of this concept than the Mayor's Matrix program. Roughly 2/3 of the Matrix statistics involve substance abuse. For the first time in San Francisco, a program has been devised that is based on true compassion, compassion based on reality. Mayor Jordan is the only candidate to recognize that not only do alcoholics and addicts suffer on the streets, but we the public are also suffering from their behavior. Jordan's critics claim Matrix criminalizes the homeless, and where substance abuse is concerned they offer the simplistic solution of expanding treatment. Although Mayor Jordan's Continuum of Care plan calls for an expansion of treatment, Mayor Jordan recognizes that accessibility to treatment is immaterial to the motivation to enter into recovery. Few drug addicts and alcoholics have recovered without accepting responsibility for their behavior and their disease. Matrix holds addicts and alcoholics accountable. Matrix treats the homeless as equal citizens, with equal rights and equal responsibilities. Critics have grotesquely distorted the facts concerning this program. It reminds me of a City Commission meeting I once attended where the discussion was whether or not to add "sexual orientation" to the city's Human Rights Ordinance. No matter what facts you presented to the contrary, fundamentalist christians portrayed gays as child-molesting deviants. I see no difference whether the bullshit is coming from the left or the right — bullshit is bullshit. Both the critics of gays and the critics of Matrix base their arguments on misconception or outright lies, then attempt to sell the public on their warped perceptions. This is harmful and progress stifling.

Matrix is one example of Mayor Jordan's true progressiveness. Mayor Jordan has the ability to address the truth without regard to whose personal agenda this may step on. He has done this for the betterment of all San Franciscans. I believe this is one of the qualities the B.A.R. recognizes, and I couldn't agree with you more.

San Franciscans have expressed the desire for the kind of leader Frank Jordan is. Thank you, B.A.R., for reminding us of that.

Gregg Stauffer
San Francisco

[Perhaps this would be the appropriate place to note that the entire "B.A.R. editorial staff" is extremely diverse, multi-opinionated, and therefore neither universally "dumb-assed" nor "courageous." Those of us who are, are proud of it.]

Politics as usual

I was disappointed twice last night due to the S.F. Mayoral Election results. I was a supporter of Roberta Achtenberg, walking precincts to hang doortags, making monetary contributions to a candidate for the first time, and phone banking to get out the vote. So, of course I was less than thrilled that Roberta came in third. That's politics...

But I was disappointed again, when Roberta endorsed Willie Brown. There are many reasons I didn't vote for Mr. Brown on the first ballot. He's not the candidate I want to be in charge of policies and programs for my city. Period! Perhaps Roberta thinks she has the best interests of San Francisco in mind by throwing her support to Mr. Brown, but I can only hope that she doesn't really feel that in her heart. That's politics as usual...

I'm afraid I'm going to have to grit my teeth and vote for Frank Jordan next month. I don't like some of his policies, but at least I trust him ... something I can not say about Willie Brown!

Timothy M. Dobbins
San Francisco

Enough harassment

I feel like I have to write this letter. The first time I took notice of this year's election was September 23, when I had the chance to meet Willie Brown: I must say he has balls to come to the Folsom Street Fair.

Anyway, I got a group picture taken with him, and after that day voting was on my mind, and so was Willie Brown.

The month of October was hell: call after call from Willie Brown supporters. Toward the end of October, up to three calls a day!

I still voted for Willie Brown Tuesday, even after all the calls. But that afternoon around 2 o'clock I got disturbed by the door. Yet, it was a Willie Brown supporter telling me to go vote. *Excuse me, been there, done that!*

He even asked if I had voted for Willie Brown! I should hope that's the end of Willie Brown supporters harassing me. I think now perhaps I voted for the wrong person — or perhaps I should stay away from politics at the Folsom Street Fair. I just don't understand why voting has to be such a harassment from Willie Brown supporters; I have not even spoken about the flyers in my mail box!

This voter suggests an apology.

Richard Miller
San Francisco

Poor business practices

It's disappointing to read about a gay business that fails, such as the recent demise of Shocking Gray. Gay businesses should receive all the support that our diverse community can give them. However, I'd like to address a gay business whose practices are questionable.

In support of gay media, I ordered a subscription to *10 Percent* magazine two years ago. I received three or four issues, and then my subscription stopped coming. My partner received a free copy of an issue I already had, but I never got another. When I wrote to the company requesting a refund, because I felt they have faulty business practices, I was sent a card from someone named Pam Lewis, requesting a copy of my canceled check. I sent this back to her, but I have yet to receive a refund. When I mail reminder letters, I am always told my letter will receive "immediate attention," which I've been waiting for almost two years.

I'm sorry that a gay business has such poor business practices. Therefore, I recommend a national boycott of *10 Percent* magazine. Clearly they don't care about the community they are meant to serve.

Steven LaVigne
Minneapolis, MN

Life on the fast-track

[The following was sent to "HIV Watch" columnist Michael Botkin:]

Re "Half-Life" (10/12): At first, I thought you were going to tell us another morbid first-person account of something. My disbelief began suspending about "...a sudden, irresistible impulse took over..." and continued to the end. Ah! thought I: someone like me getting AIDS, compressing my last 25 years into one, and then expressing it without my native arrogance and any politically correct terms! Wonderful!

With all the attention being given and misgiven to HIV-ers, your observations about living should help HIV- people think of what they are doing, what they have done, and the choices ahead. And I now have a new perspective: the similarities between getting old (fifty-five? already!) and HIV-, and the fast-track of being young and HIV+. Wayne Friday couldn't do that.

Thank you with all the grandness this old fairy can muster.

Michael J. Kressbach
San Francisco

Revolution Derailed

It might be premature for the Democratic Party to break open the champagne, but the makings of a rebound were obvious in last week's off-year election results. Newt Gingrich's "Republican revolution" definitely hit a snag when the GOP failed to win the governorship in Kentucky. Despite pre-election polls from both parties that had forecast a GOP win, Democratic Lieutenant Governor Paul Patton kept the state under Democratic control, albeit narrowly. Patton did so by running hard against GOP House Speaker Gingrich and his policies, a forecast of what other Democrats will likely do next year. President Clinton won Kentucky's electoral votes in 1992 with 45 percent of the vote, but last year's national GOP sweep captured four of that state's House members, so Patton's victory there was extra sweet.

Commentary

In Virginia, the GOP spent hundreds of thousands of dollars in an attempt to wrest control of that state's legislature for the first time ever. However, Democrats won by a comfortable margin in the Virginia House of Delegates and still control the state senate, due to the tie-breaking vote of their lieutenant governor (the senate is split 20-20).

While, as expected, Republican Governor Kirk Fordice was easily re-elected in Mississippi, other state offices, such as lieutenant governor, secretary of state and attorney general, were taken by the Democrats. Even though the overall outcome of the election was encouraging, Democratic leaders were careful not to make too much of their apparent slowing of the GOP avalanche. In fact, polls show that Louisiana will likely elect a Republican when they vote this Saturday, replacing longtime Democratic Governor Edwin Edwards.

Of course, the other good news for the Democrats last week, especially President Clinton, came from retired General Colin Powell's decision not to run for the presidency. In poll after poll, Powell was the only potential GOP candidate to consistently best the president. And with Ross Perot seemingly ready to once again play the spoiler with his newly formed Reform Party, there are more smiles in the White House these days than there have been for some time.

Just after Powell announced he would not run for president, Newt Gingrich started a quick public relations blitz designed to make him a "draft" candidate of the GOP — only to have Virginia's Republican governor openly blame him for the Democrats



Friend of Frank's: A dimpled Dianne Feinstein with Mayor Jordan on her right greets a well-wisher at the senator's Saturday night bash for Jordan at Planet Hollywood.

holding onto the legislature there. Recent national polls show Clinton's numbers rising while both Dole's and Gingrich's are slipping. The conventional wisdom from strategists from both parties (although the GOP would deny it) is that Campaign '96 is Bill Clinton's to lose.

Election highlights

The press flack for Registrar Germaine Wong got the biggest laugh of the long election evening when he suggested, straight face and all, that "turning on the air conditioner" was somehow the cause of yet another disaster by the registrar's office. (He did have a trace of a smile when he said it, though.) It makes one wonder what the gang down at Second and Folsom would do in an election like they have in NYC, with four million voters. Will Angela make good on her promise that "heads will roll?"

Good news for gays: Maine's anti-gay rights measure went down to defeat, thanks in large part to the pro-gay Maine Won't Discriminate organization, which raised and spent more than \$1 million to defeat the transparently homophobic scheme.

Mississippi voters turned down a term limits measure. Twenty-one states now have such a law. The U.S. Supreme Court will likely one day rule term limits unconstitutional.

Gary, Indiana, a city with an 80 percent black population, elected a white mayor over an African-American candidate, the first white mayor in decades. Indianapolis' pro-gay GOP Mayor Steve Goldsmith was easily re-elected.

Keep our city beautiful dept.: It's that time again. Except for Willie Brown, Frank Jordan, Terence Hallinan, and Bill Fazio, let's get those unsightly campaign posters down ... and fast.

Numero uno Brown spent part

of last Sunday campaigning with former foe Roberta Achenberg, who wasted no time in endorsing him. The two sat together at Glide Memorial Church, and Brown told the worshippers there that Achenberg was the "most decent candidate in the mayor's race."

Meanwhile, Frank Jordan took an early 10 o'clock stroll along Castro Street. Just about the time the mayor met up with a group of his gay/lesbian supporters at the Elephant Walk to work the area, a car stopped a block away at Market and Castro. Two young men jumped out, quickly dumped two cardboard boxes of shredded paper, and took off. The mess swirled down Castro, borne by passing cars. Mayoral staffers say the stunt has been pulled several times near Jordan's Van Ness Avenue campaign headquarters, but guess what, they're onto you guys. I understand they have a license plate number, too.

At Senator Dianne Feinstein's big party for Jordan at Planet Hollywood Saturday, there was more than a little talk of DiFi running for governor again. (Reading this, Gray Davis?) Feinstein, who truly loves her job in D.C. despite being in the Democratic minority, gave a rousing speech for Jordan, promising to beat the bushes for him until December 12.

Next year's Board of Supes race should be interesting. The next mayor, whoever he might be, will get the chance to appoint replacements for Assembly-bound Carole Migden and Kevin Shelley. Famed former hooker Margo St. James (now a grandmother, incidentally) says she is a candidate; Caroline (Mrs. Milton) Marks is already off and running; and a truckload of gay and lesbian candidates are sure to jump in.

Caroline Kennedy is in town to attend tonight's "Conversa-

Continued on page 11



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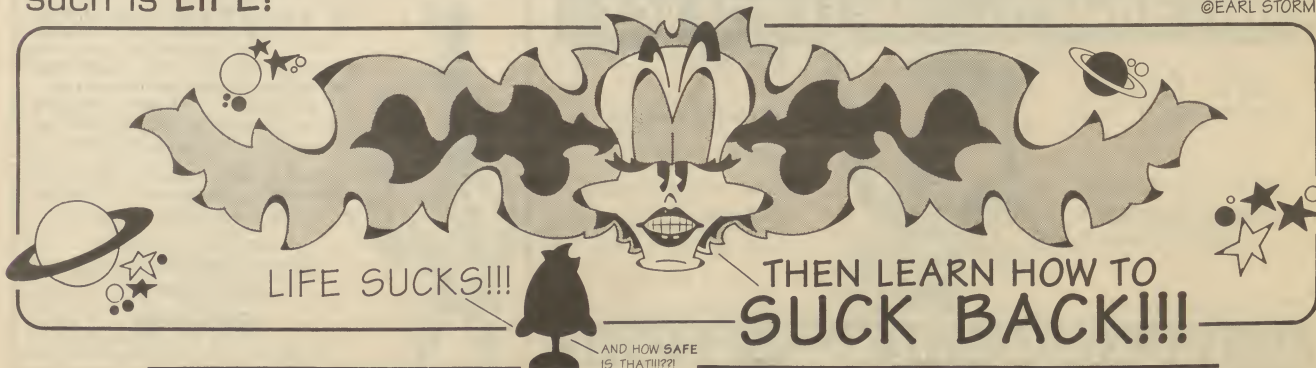
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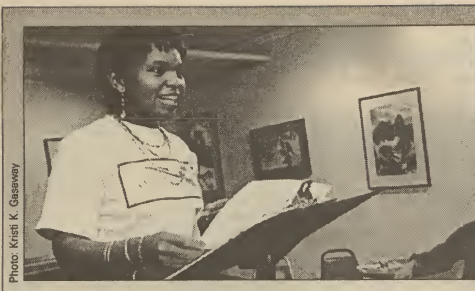


Photo: Kristi K. Gasaway

Poetry in Motion

Bay Area author Wanda Sabir was one of the readers Sunday, Nov. 12, at the African-American Poetry and Spoken Word benefit at The Coffee Mill in Oakland. The literary event was a fundraiser for ACT UP/East Bay and, in addition to Sabir, featured the talents of Maudelle Shirek, Joy Holland, Valerie Papaya Mann, GAR and Raymond "Nat" Turner.

Declines to State

by Beth Elliott

Word is the talk of Robin Tyler's (possibly last) women's music festival in the Sierra was getting enough lesbians to move to some sparsely populated state to take it over - not whether, but *which* and *when*. That's an interesting proposition. Its practical implementation piqued my curiosity, but not before my initial reactions of "That's nice, have fun!" and "The PC crowd's going away and leaving me alone? Yee, hah!" I found it interesting that I neither assumed I'd want to check out the possibility of moving (out of California? Yeah, right), nor felt a twinge at the sad knowledge that politically incorrect *moi* might never be fully welcome and comfortable in a lesbian state.

Nonetheless, my thoughts quickly moved to imagining the crash course in Real Life 101 that looms as a prerequisite to making this dream (which once would have been my passionate dream) a reality. I assumed that, even with the growth of Las Vegas and Reno, Nevada would be the most sparsely populated state and therefore the one most easily overrun by lesbians. That, I thought, would be fun to watch: as a Westerner, I can only imagine such a move on any (non-coastal) Western state as a comic fiasco waiting to happen. Especially in Nevada, with its legal gambling and commercial sex - first dibs on rights to script the sitcom! But when I checked an almanac, I found that Nevada was now only tenth-least populated, at 1.2 million. So I made a spot evaluation of each emptier state's possibilities.

Dykes to Delaware?

Wyoming is the emptiest at 453K, but it, too, has the Western state disadvantage of too wide-open, barren spaces, and not enough jobs. Alaska (550K) is too rugged and unforgiving for all but the hardest dykes, and has a disproportionate male-female ratio that assures new women way too much male attention. D.C. (607K) - well, aside from not enough home rule, another minority has first dibs. North (639K) and South (696K) Dakota? Maybe if we brought back wimmin's collective

farms. Montana (800K) is also Western and far-flung, though the liberal movie stars might help - when they're around. That leaves three possibilities, each relatively close to New York and Northampton: beautiful Vermont (562K, many of whom are "rock-ribbed" Republicans), Delaware (666K) and maybe even Rhode Island (1 mil).

Commentary

So let's say the campaign begins to get three-quarters of a million lesbians to move to Delaware. The first wave, being made up of the serious "wimmin's space" true believers, is heavy on academics and the downwardly mobile. Right away, the expectations of compassionately thorough social services are extremely (and fervently) high. Who ya gonna tax to pay for the high-end safety net? If that first wave doesn't comprise a majority, elections will be won by those pledging to hold the line on subsidizing a wave of newcomers looking to double the population. Tax lesbian small business-women? If taxes are too high, they won't show up, since too little of the rewards of their hard work will be theirs to keep instead of going to the type of woman used to feeling entitled to anyone's food in the shared apartment's refrigerator.

If the lesbian state somehow did get off the ground, how long would it take to run into serious budget problems? Since it would believe in comprehensive safety nets and social engineering as a matter of principle, it could be the next destination of much of the country's homeless, the new target for other states' Greyhound therapy and a magnet for the unemployed.

And what would lesbian state law be like? Would MacKinnon and Dworkin write the pornography laws? Would consensual SM play be felony assault (mirroring England's Spanner case)? Would transsexual lesbians face draconian bureaucratic harassment?

Lowest common denominator

It's too bad, because I revel in women's company, especially

when it involves physical affection, emotional bonding and the potential for intimacy (I'm a lesbian, duh). My life is set up in such a way that I can enjoy the steady company of good people, most of whom are women. I do believe that, on average, women have more of a clue than men. But society is made up, by and large, of the average. A society mostly of women, or a lesbian state, could be one with a lot of the bullshit cut out - or it could be relentlessly PC, or brought down to a lowest, smarmiest common denominator in the name of anti-elitism.

My belief in the dream of a "Lesbian Nation" has tarnished over the years, but my belief in women hasn't. Now that I've outlived two decades of mandatory dyke uniforms (whether granola crunchie or urban queer), I get to do femme bonding, and it gives me the optimistic joy I got from post-Stonewall lesbianism before the fundamentalists wrested control from us post-peace-creep proto-womanists. When I go to Oseto (wish they had an East Bay branch), the sisterly friendliness is as relaxing as the tub and saunas. Maybe an equally cool lesbian state could happen if it were achieved gradually, pragmatically - its administrators more Roberta Achtenberg than Mary Daly - and nobody had that "I'm in Mecca and I'm special" mentality.

Perhaps another reason I've few feelings one way or another about a lesbian state has to do with what may be the Goddess's birthday present as one of those half-decade odometer rollovers looms. In my early twenties, I got this idea that reincarnation was like a series of acid trips - you'd come on slowly, peak, then gradually float down as mundane reality began to show through the trails again.

Well, real life's been looking like that lately: I'm alternately getting ecstatically enthused about cool things I'm doing (femme bonding, making music, hot sex/kink) and feeling kind of time-less while it all swirls around me. Participant/observer. Product of my time and place/eternal and having fun while I pass through. Must be one of those wild-ass Sagittarius things. ▼

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Get San Francisco To Go

by Mary Ann Swissler

The Streets of San Francisco II could be the name of a new store located on Pier 39, filled to the brim as it is with Lombard Street bricks, street signs, parking meters, cable car wires, and other pieces of memorabilia.

The creators of The San Francisco City Store opted for a more utilitarian title for their venue, which has been enthusiastically greeted since opening day three weeks ago, assistant manager Noel Torres told OUT FOR BUSINESS.



Photo: Rick Gerhart

Leal models a City Store special.

OUT for business

"Business is doing great," Torres said. "Unfortunately, we're kind of low on our items right now, so we're doing a lot of special orders." Those will be filled once the new merchandise arrives this week, he said, adding that it has been mostly locals who have already cleaned out all but about 25 street signs. Many curious tourists snap up t-shirts, but new shipments of these and many more products, like cable car bells and manhole covers, are due to arrive at the City Store this week, he said.

The store will train and employ formerly homeless and low-income people, which backers like lesbian Supervisor Susan Leal, the Gap corporation, and the San

Francisco-based non-profit Roberts Foundation describe as an innovative partnership among government agencies, private non-profit organizations, and corporations. Golden Gate Community, Inc. won a competitive bid to operate the store.

Leal was the first to conceive of the City Store, and introduced a resolution June 1994 that included

the suggestion it be operated by a non-profit already committed to providing homeless and unemployed persons with job training opportunities.

"San Francisco used to literally throw away real collectible items," Leal said. "Now, for the first time in city history, the City Store will convert those items to cash."

The City Store is open between 10:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., seven days a week. It can be reached at 788-5322.

Board of San Francisco?

If you like the idea of owning a piece of San Francisco, but don't want to lug a brick around with you, there is another option. The childhood board game that perfectly crystallized the great American pastime - real estate speculation - has expanded into eight new cities, including our fair city by the bay.

The San Francisco edition of the Monopoly Board Game is the first to be officially endorsed by Parker Brothers, according to spokesperson Richard Matthews of USAOPOLY Corp. The compa-

ny has also duplicated the famous game for Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, New York, and San Diego, with versions of Washington, D.C. and Dallas in the works.

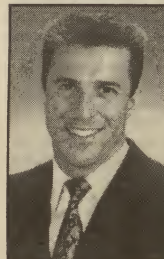
"Aspiring San Francisco real estate moguls and architectural buffs will especially enjoy this new edition, which features a spectacular full-color sketch of the entire city skyline across the board's center," according to Matthews.

San Francisco Monopoly is available at Macy's, FAO Schwarz, and other fine toy stores. ▼

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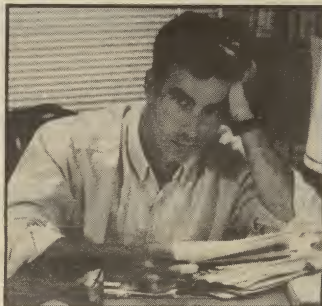
Continued from page 9

tions" series at the Osher Marin Jewish Community Center in San Pedro. She'll push her new book, *The Right to Privacy*, and spend the weekend in the city with friends. Call 479-2000 for tickets.

Less than a week after New York's highest state court ruled it legal for unmarried people, including gays, to adopt their partner's children, two Garden City, New York lesbians, Robin Shlakemand and Dee Hoole, announced they will ask a lower court to let them cross-adopt each other's offspring. The two women both conceived daughters by the same sperm donor.

Just across the river from New York, however, things were less positive last week. Stating that "the criminal law has changed. The moral law, as to the act of sodomy, has not," Freehold, New Jersey Superior Court Judge Patrick McGann ruled that the Boy Scouts can exclude gays because "men who do those criminal and immoral acts cannot be held out as role models." Eagle Scout James Dale was expelled when Scout leaders learned he was gay. Courts have consistently upheld the ban on gays, bragged national Boy Scout spokesman Richard Walker.

The Quote of the Week is from Colin Powell's speech declaring that he would not run for president but would remain politically active: "I will do so as a member of the Republican Party and try to assist the party in broadening its appeal. I believe I can help the party of Lincoln move once again close to the spirit of Lincoln." He certainly has his work cut out for him! Ahem, General Powell, may I introduce you to Jesse Helms, Patrick Buchanan, Robert Dornan, *ad nauseam*. ▼



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Clinton Backs Jesse Helms's Indecent Law to Supreme Court

by Michael Kirkland, UPI

The Supreme Court accepted a case Monday, November 13 to determine whether television cable operators have the right to ban programs they consider obscene, even if the programs come from public broadcasting.

The Clinton administration, in an unusual alliance with Republican lawmakers, is defending a lower court decision supporting the practice.

Republican Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina sponsored the 1992 law that the Clinton administration is defending. "The problem is that cable companies are required to carry, on leased access channels, any and every program that comes along, including programs that include a wide variety of highly indecent material [before 1992]," said a Clinton administration brief, which quoted Helms's remarks on the Senate floor.

At issue is whether cable TV systems are "public forums," and how much power the government has to censor them.

The Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 requires cable systems with more than 36 channels to set aside some for unaffiliated third parties and lets local authorities set aside some channels for "public, educational, or governmental use" — the so-called PEG channels.

Under the act, cable operators were not allowed to exercise control over the content of the PEG or commercial-leased channels. But the law also gave the operators immunity from lawsuits brought under federal, state, or local obscenity laws for programs carried on the set-aside channels.

All that changed in 1992, however, with the passage of the Helms-sponsored Cable Television Consumer Protection Act, which returned editorial control to cable operators, who were then allowed

"to prohibit indecent programming on leased access channels."

The new act also required the Federal Communications Commission to allow cable operators to ban "obscene material, [and] sexually explicit conduct" on the PEG channels.

Since it allowed cable operators to censor their systems, the new law also removed their immunity from litigation over obscene material.

When the FCC drew up new regulations in 1993 to implement the new law, it rejected arguments that the law violated the First Amendment. But a coalition of cable programmers and consumer groups filed separate requests for a review of the FCC regulations by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, and at first met with some success.

Censorship—Big Government

A three-judge appellate panel

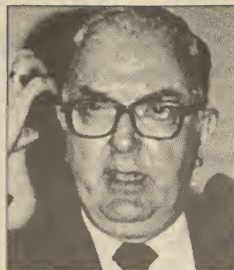
ruled that if Congress let cable operators ban "indecent" programming, then the cable systems were acting as an extension of the federal government.

The panel tried to send the case back down to the commission for further consideration. The FCC asked the full appellate court for review, however, and the full court threw out the panel's ruling and upheld the 1992 act.

The coalition then asked the Supreme Court for review.

The main case before the court was brought by the ACLU and the Denver Area Educational Telecommunications Inc. It was combined with a second case, brought by TV producer Norman Lear's People for the American Way and a number of New York-based media-consumer organizations.

"The case before the court directly deals only with public access," said New York lawyer Charles Sims, the principal attorney



Politics make strange bedfellows dept.: Helms (above) and Clinton agree on the CTCPA.

neyn in the case for the coalition. "But more broadly, it gives the court an opportunity to comment on whether there is governmental power to censor what is called 'indecent' programming."

Sims said the "indecent" category is much more broad than "what's called obscene."

"Neither is [the case] limited to what people think of as *Midnight Blue* [a controversial public access show in New York]," he warned. "This is public interest programming that might touch on ... abortion or all sorts of controversial subjects." ▼

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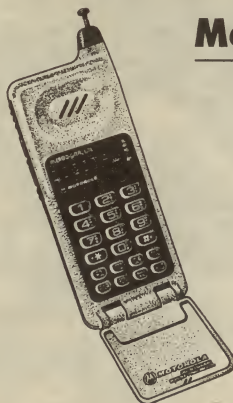
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Bucks Keep Stopping at KSFO!

by Al Kiewasser

Now billing itself as "The Right Talk," San Francisco radio station KSFO still broadcasts the wrong message. The station's right-wing hosts routinely label gay men as "pedophiles and cherry pickers," people with AIDS as "leeches," and peace activists as "terrorists." Despite community meetings with management and picket-line protests, the San Francisco-based station has continued to broadcast a format of relentless hate talk. However, it appears that KSFO's advertisers are listening to the community, even if the station's management is not.

In response to letters expressing concern over their support for hate radio, advertisers continue to drop their KSFO accounts. Many companies claim they were unaware of the radio station's noxious agenda (which provides a bad environment for just about any product that isn't a weapon).

Alex Marcelo of RK & Laser Eye Institute of California (eye surgeons) recently announced his company's withdrawal from KSFO. "I was not aware of the inflammatory remarks made by the broadcasters at the station," Marcelo noted. "We have decided not to renew with KSFO."

Another recent account cancellation came from Davies Medical Center. Noting that their ads had been placed on several stations by an independent media buyer (a standard industry practice), Davies spokesperson Diane McClaran was distressed to discover that KSFO's hate talk was among the buys. She said: "While we were aware of the stations that were selected on the basis of age, residence and health plans of the listeners, and the general radio format such as news/talk, we were unaware of the specific program content on some of the stations." McClaran expressed regret over the "unfortunate association between offensive and inflammatory programming and our advertisement."

"The media purchase was made through an agency," she added, "and we instructed them to discontinue any advertising on KSFO."

Last week, Jane Osman of Columbia House announced that her lucrative business would also be giving KSFO the boot. "We are mindful of the need to monitor programming content," Osman said. "We have no plans to advertise further on KSFO."

This week, local columnist Herb Caen seems to have joined the protest. When Caen heard that his voice was being used on KSFO, as part of a *Chronicle* ad campaign, he responded with unpleasant surprise. "I had no idea where the ad would be placed," Caen assured GLAAD. "It is now off KSFO."

Over the past few months, several companies - including Armstrong Roofing, Safeway Stores and BMW of San Francisco - have stopped advertising on KSFO, specifically protesting the station's vicious homophobia.

Compliment these advertisers for doing what is truly right - removing their support from KSFO's "Right Talk" radio. Alex Marcelo, RK & Laser Eye Institute of California, 4585 Stevens Creek Blvd. CA 95051, tel. 408-296-1010, fax 408-296-4318; Diane McClaran, MPH, Administrative Manager, Professional & Community Relations, Davies Medical Center, Castro & Duboce Streets, San Francisco CA 94114, tel. 415-565-6779; Jane E. Osman, Vice President, Consumer & Government Affairs, Columbia House,

1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York NY 10020-1090, tel. 212-596-2651, fax 212-596-2657; Herb Caen, *San Francisco Chronicle*, 901 Mission Street, San Francisco CA 94103-2988, tel. 415-777-1111. Continue contacting advertisers still buying time on hate radio stations, as well, and remind them that homophobia is bad for business!

Rating the ratings

When *Night is Falling*, a new movie from October Films that tells a lesbian love story, is scheduled to open this month. The homophobic Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) has deemed the film unfit for most audiences.

Despite objections and a formal appeal from October Films, the MPAA has given the movie an "NC-17" rating. The "NC-17" classification is the most restrictive of the MPAA ratings, and effectively limits access to adults (over 17).

The new rating also carries a popular stigma (from an affiliation with "soft core pornography") that could cause some adults to shy away as well. Most mainstream producers have viewed the NC-17 rating as a detriment to a film's financial and popular success.

When *Night is Falling* focuses on a theology professor, whose chance meeting with a circus performer leads to romance - lesbian romance. The film includes two love-making scenes that are no more graphic or gratuitous than similar heterosexual scenes routinely included in "PG-13" and "R" rated movies.

"It is our strong belief that if these two scenes had involved heterosexual love-making, we would have received the less restrictive 'R' rating," said October Films executive Amir Malin. "It is very unfortunate, and quite ominous, that the MPAA has opted to take this course with its rating decision."

The MPAA's homophobia has been mirrored by *The New York Times*. The nation's "newspaper of record" has refused to print an advertisement for *When Night is Falling*. The ad depicted two figures, embracing and partially covered by a bed sheet.

As long as homosexual love scenes are treated like nuclear waste, movie audiences will be encouraged in their homophobia. In a culture that routinely "advises," "warns" and otherwise discourages the viewing of lesbian or gay love, it becomes easy - even inevitable - to ignore, fear or hate homosexuals.

Protest the NC-17 rating of *When Night is Falling*. Contact the MPAA, Classification and Rating Administration, 1414 Ventura Blvd., Suite 210, Sherman Oaks CA 91423, tel. 202-293-1966, fax 202-293-7674. Complaints should also be directed to Lorren Elkins, Managing Director, Advertising, *The New York Times*, 229 West 43rd Street, New York NY 10036, tel. 212-556-1234, e-mail LorrenElk@aol.com.

Media briefs

• BE REAL ... Bunin/Murray Productions (BMP), producers of MTV's *Real World* and *Road Rules* series, is currently conducting a nationwide search for people who have real-life high-school reunion stories to tell. The stories and their tellers will serve as the basis for a two-hour documentary, which will air as an NBC movie-of-the-week. Producer Jon Murray said: "We'd love to include the story of a lesbian or gay person who either came out to their friends during high school or who has since come out, but has not re-

connected with their high school friends to tell them." Participants will be compensated. Contact: BMP, tel. 213-965-8796, fax 213-965-0932, e-mail reunion@primenet.com, URL <http://www.primenet.com/~reunion>.

• FRIENDLY TELEVISION ... For KQED-TV's (Channel 9) next pledge drive (December 1-17), the San Francisco Chapter of PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) plans to staff phones during an evening of non-gay programming ... boosting the cause when least expected. For details, contact Amal Dalati, PFLAG, tel./fax 415-324-9333, e-mail dalati@hoover.stanford.edu.

Also, PFLAG chapters across the nation have joined in a new TV ad campaign, "Project Open Mind," intended to confront hate speech/violence and "shock citizens out of silence." The 30-second advocacy advertisements portray "the anti-gay hate speech of Jerry Falwell, Pat Robertson, and Sen. Jesse Helms and images of the deadly consequences of their words." Contact PFLAG, P.O. Box 640223, San Francisco CA 94164, tel. 415-359-0207.

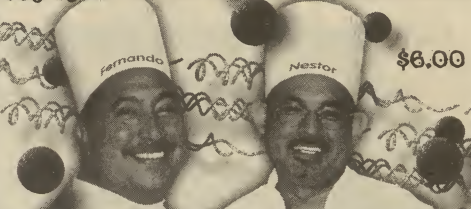
To notify GLAAD/SFBA of any defamatory or affirmative media coverage, or to request GLAAD membership info, call our 24-hour MediAlert Hotline (415-861-4588) or write to: GLAAD, 1360 Mission St., Suite 200, SF CA 94103, tel. 415-861-2244, fax 415-861-4893, e-mail gladssfba@aol.com, URL <http://www.gaytrek.com/gaytrek/glaad.html>.

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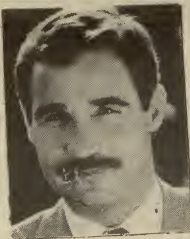
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COMMUNITY NEWS



The Internet will transport all 45,000 quilt panels, eliminating the need for Amtrak boxcars, and scenes like this.

NAMES To Bring AIDS Quilt to the Internet

by Joe Fasbinder
United Press International

The AIDS Memorial Quilt is made of panels contributed by friends and family members of people who have died of AIDS; each panel is a memorial to one specific person, with some of the displays adorned with personal artifacts, like Barbie dolls or eyeglasses.

To date, nearly six million people have seen some or all of the memorial, portions of which went on display at more than 2,000 places in 1994.

But as AIDS takes more and more victims, the quilt has grown to the size of 18 football fields and weighs 36 tons, more or less. Organizers of the NAMES Project, the San Francisco group that oversees the quilt, estimate it will contain the names of 45,000 people by

mid-1996, up from 31,000 in 1995.

Although the full quilt has now become too big to exhibit all at once, all in one place, if the NAMES Project has its way the memorial could soon be viewable around the world 24 hours a day - via the Internet.

Venice, California-based Luna Imaging has joined with the NAMES Project Foundation and the University of Massachusetts to develop a digital archive of the AIDS Memorial Quilt to make it more accessible to all.

Luna is converting photos of each panel into digital data storable on computer disks. The University of Massachusetts will catalog information in a database, making it possible to search for individual panels using key words and names.

The idea of digitizing the quilt is to make the entire memorial

available on a World Wide Web site.

Plans also call for putting the quilt archive on CD-ROMs, which routinely contain about 650 megabytes of information per disk.

"This archive will not replace the quality (of the real quilt), but it will radically amplify the quilt's powerful message about the global tragedy that is AIDS - and the steps we can take to stop it," said Kevin Donovan, Luna Imaging's special-projects director.

However, digitizing the quilt represents a massive project. Ultimately, the digital archive will contain more than 620,000 terabytes of information. One terabyte equals 240, or 1,099,511,627,776 bytes of data.

Luna expects just photographing the memorial's panels will take three years to complete. ▼

The SF Effort To Bring the Quilt Online

by Mary Ann Swissler

Even in an era where funding for AIDS housing, research, and support services are afforded the same low priority given education for the 21st century, school lunches, and elder care, Greg Lugliani makes a strong case for raising money to put the AIDS Memorial Quilt on the Internet.

"First, I wouldn't say it competes," said Lugliani, Director of Communications for The NAMES Project. "It is a way for people to learn [about HIV/AIDS] that isn't threatening or confusing. I don't think it competes for other essential services."

He told the *Bay Area Reporter* the new project, which will debut on World AIDS Day (Friday, December 1), will be a gateway to information and education services, and a powerful tool in raising awareness about HIV/AIDS. The NAMES Project receives requests from individuals and groups throughout the world every day to have the quilt displayed in their area, he said. Putting it online will increase the number of people who can see it a million-fold, and expand the demographic pool of viewers.

Accessibility on home computers will also make it easier for people in smaller cities and rural



NAMES' Greg Lugliani.

areas, and those living in foreign countries where AIDS is stigmatized even more than in the United States, to view the panels and the accompanying HIV/AIDS educational materials. "We're trying to challenge the complacency that exists now," he told the *B.A.R.*

Moreover, he said, the quilt

provides a loving, larger-than-life tribute and morale booster for people still living with HIV/AIDS, and generates cash donations from people who wouldn't normally understand the enormous amount of capital it takes to keep HIV/AIDS service agencies going. "AIDS still has the stigma attached," he observed.

Lugliani said the project was made possible by San Francisco-based vivid studios, which donated time, staff, and materials to create the interactive web pages through which the images can be accessed. Multimedia expert Ann D. Canavan, vice president of production at vivid studios, spearheaded the project, which will continue through the next year.

"We all agreed it was a worthwhile cause," vivid spokeswoman Anita Corona told the *B.A.R.* "[Canavan] felt strongly enough about it, and the management agreed."

In addition to everything else the company is doing to bring the project to fruition, vivid will also conduct all the fundraising, including a party scheduled for Thursday, December 7. ▼

For more information call The NAMES Project at (415) 882-6200.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

'Out Of The Silence,' A Dialogue of the Heart

by Mary Ann Swissler

The extended debate within the Presbyterian Church over the ordination of gay and lesbian ministers eventually led to the General Assembly's 1993 order to conduct a three-year dialogue on the subject, with another vote on the question planned for 1996. It also, interestingly, formed the basis of a stage play that will be performed in San Francisco this Sunday, November 19.

According to Noe Valley Presbyterian Church member Lisa Larges, the production *Out of the Silence* is composed of personal stories based on the debate over gay ordinations, brought to life by the straight and gay members of the church.

"I like it because it's a dialogue of the heart," she said.

Part of the General Assembly's 1993 order allowed Larges to deliver the sermon on Gay Pride Day at her home ministry, Noe Valley Ministry. It was during that moment of empowerment, she told the *Bay Area Reporter*, that she remembers thinking, "We really need to take leadership in this area."

She said she just had an infor-

mal speaker's bureau in mind when she started putting the word out, but after hearing the personal stories submitted by both straight and gay members of her congregation she decided to put them together for a performance.

"Every single one of them was an incredibly powerful story," she said. "They're stories for everyone. They're not just about the church, they're about faith and spirituality."

The cast of *Out of the Silence* has also staged the play at Presbyterian churches in Fremont, Hayward, Montclair, and San Rafael, and are scheduled to go to Livermore.

Proceeds from the November 19 play will go towards a travel fund to again request ordination of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender members of the church. It will begin at 7:00 p.m. at Noe Valley Ministries, located at 1021 Sanchez Street, near 23rd Street. A suggested donation of between \$5-10 is requested, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds. ▼

Call (415) 648-0547 for more information.



Lisa Larges: "We really need to take leadership in this area."

Photo: Jane Philomen Cléland

Drivers Wanted To Schlep 20 Tons of Coins

by Dennis Conkin

The AIDS Emergency Fund has issued an emergency request for volunteer drivers to help with its current Every Penny Counts fundraising drive.

"We could use a dozen or so volunteers who drive and could help us drop off jars," said AEF spokesman Jack Murgia. "The basic problem is that people in San Francisco don't need cars and most of our volunteers don't drive. We have tons of office volunteers; we need people with cars in San Francisco and throughout the Bay Area."

The volunteers are particularly needed because of the annual December 1 World AIDS Day Every Penny Counts drive by the non-profit group. More than 20 tons of coins are being collected throughout

November and put on display at the annual Justin Herman Plaza event.

Corporate sponsors of the fundraising effort include Wells Fargo Bank, Pacific Bell, the San Francisco 49ers, Levi Strauss, Chiron Corporation, Bechtel Corporation, and Golden Brands/Miller Beer.

Wells Fargo is collecting coins in its San Francisco offices and the SF 49ers are holding a collection drive at their November 26 "Until There's A Cure" benefit game.

Radio station KMEL will sponsor a free concert by Brandy, the popular 16-year-old Atlantic Records hip-hop artist, for the Bay Area school that collects the most coins for the event.

"22 schools throughout San Francisco and the Bay Area are already in the competition," Murgia told the *B.A.R.*

The project collected its 50 millionth penny in August 1993, and in two years has expanded from 350 collection sites, mostly in gay-related bars and business venues, to 650 collection sites around the city.

Last year, Every Penny Counts Day raised \$42,000 to assist more than 3,000 clients in ten Bay Area counties, through direct cash assistance grants of up to \$500 a year for emergency expenses such as rent, utilities, medical day care, and other needs. The cash grants are disbursed directly to the service provider on behalf of the clients.

The Pennies Project began in 1987 by bartender Fred Skau, who cleaned out an empty one gallon olive jar and placed it on the bar at The Gate to raise funds for people with AIDS. ▼

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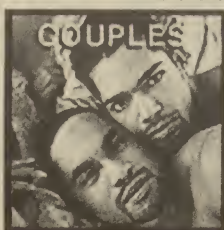
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No more relief at 17th Street and Market.

Muni Puts Brakes on 'Relief' Stops in Castro

by Mary Ann Swissler

Drivers of Muni's sleek and colorful new F-line streetcars, some of whom have been discharging passengers short of the designated stop at Market and 17th streets, will now be required to pull up to the elevated concrete islands there.

The islands were built at a cost of \$100,000 each along the entire length of the F-line, from the Embarcadero to Castro. Drivers say that passengers try to enter the car when it is pulled all the way up to the platform, so some drivers taking "relief" time at the end of the line have ordered riders to disembark into traffic near the busy intersection.

Recently Muni issued a bulletin to put a halt to the practice,

stating that F-line operators are required to pull up to the platform, according to Muni spokesperson Anne Milner. "The operators need to stop at the platform for safe and proper operation of the streetcars," she said.

Barry Hermanson, president of the group Merchants of Upper Market, said he has recently noticed many F-line cars pulling up closer to the elevated cement boarding islands, but still not adjacent to them.

Milner said that riders can dial a Muni hotline number, 923-6164, to complain if a driver does not let them exit at the island. Callers need to have the driver's number, the vehicle number, the time, and location.

Regarding the Muni complaint number, Hermanson noted, "I

have heard that not a lot of good comes out of the complaint line. I'm sure they're overwhelmed."

Merchants of Upper Market first contacted Muni in the beginning of September, shortly after the F-line began operating, about drivers creating a potentially dangerous situation by not using the designated exit points.

Milner confirmed to the Bay Area Reporter that drivers may stop at 17th and Castro, or other ends of transit lines, for a few minutes—but Muni does not consider it break time. "It allows some leeway in case an operator is running late," she explained.

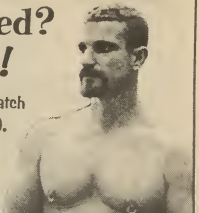
Last Friday, one driver told the B.A.R. that his short break at Castro was the only time he had to take care of essentials like going to the restroom. ▼

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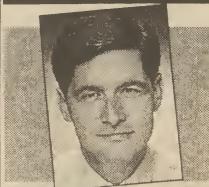
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Activists Weigh In on FDA's Newly Approved HIV Drugs

by Bob Roeher

People with AIDS and HIV have "much more hope than even a year ago," according to Spencer Cox, coordinator with the New York based Treatment Action Group (TAG), one of the AIDS treatment activists who attended a meeting of the Antiviral Drug Products Advisory Committee of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

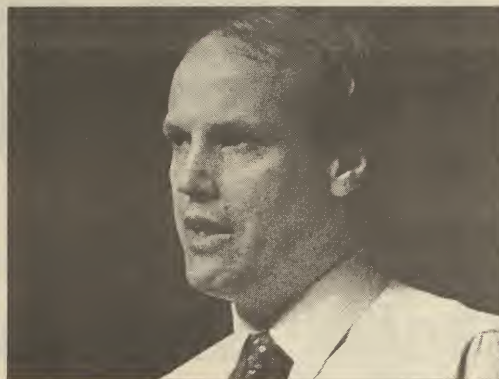
The three-day marathon, November 6-8 near Washington, DC, recommended three more HIV drugs for approval. Two are nucleoside analogues, d4T and 3TC, the same category of drug as AZT. The third is Saquinavir, the first in a new family of AIDS drugs called protease inhibitors.

FDA Commissioner David Kessler told reporters, "The answer is not going to come from any one of these drugs, the answer is going to come from combinations." He is expected to quickly sign the recommendations.

Approval of Bristol-Myers Squibb's d4T was almost perfunctory. The drug had long been given accelerated approval for limited use. The recommendation now was for full approval.

According to Cox, "The company has demonstrated the drug's clinical utility in an adequate and well-controlled clinical trial. Full marketing approval is appropriate." He did urge Bristol-Myers Squibb to undertake further trials to determine if lower dosages would be as effective.

The Committee recommenda-



Project Inform's Martin Delaney: "The clinical impact of these combinations is hard to predict."

tion for 3TC was for use in combination with AZT. The drug had proved of little value as a monotherapy because the HIV virus quickly mutates resistance. But those mutations seem to make the bug more susceptible to AZT, or so researchers have speculated. Even without knowing why, data presented during the last year has been most encouraging.

Martin Delaney with San Francisco-based Project Inform welcomed "the broad indication" given to 3TC. "We think it would have been a mistake to limit this [use] based on CD4 numbers," he said. "Those are really arbitrary parameters."

"And I think, frankly, you would have had a riot on your hands with people with HIV infection."

Limited data

Delaney said it was best to "let the questions of when, best, and how to use them be decided separately and not by the drug companies and FDA. That trial needs to be designed as a strategy trial; that needs to be a government trial."

Cox was less contented. TAG argued for more limited labeling of use to "retain incentives to continue studying" the drug. "What it does is limit the company's right to market the drug," he argued, "it doesn't limit the [off-label] use of the drug."

He criticized the limited data provided by the manufacturer. "38,000 patients and no toxicity data? That is revolting. Those patients were exploited to build the market. And having been one of them, I'll throw myself in there."

The panel did advise that 3TC carry a warning for pediatric use. One study showed a 14 percent incident of pancreatitis, a potentially life-threatening side effect, in children receiving the medication.

Gary Rose, a lobbyist with the AIDS Action Council in Washington, praised the committee's recommendation as "the first FDA approval of giving combination therapy. That is a very useful educational and advocacy tool."

"It is important that we draw doctors to the idea of multi-antiviral combination therapy," he continued. He hopes the data is "sexy enough" to do that job of moving practitioners to approaches other than AZT monotherapy.

He lamented "the historic disconnect between the care community and the treatment activist community" that began in the late 1980s. "We have to find a way to reconnect that," he said, "because care people are not internalizing the importance of educating care providers," much to the detriment

of patients.

"The reimbursement problem" is another issue, Rose said. "Without FDA approval you don't get reimbursement, or you have to fight over it again and again. But the indication [use] that was approved was AZT-3TC" in combination.

Waiting for protease

The committee recommended accelerated approval for the first protease inhibitor, Saquinavir, which its manufacturer Hoffmann-LaRoche will market under the name Invirase. It denied the request for stand-alone usage because of limited evidence of efficacy in those trials. It opted instead for use in combination with nucleoside analogues.

"I do think the class of drug represents a new threshold in the ability to treat the disease," Delaney said. "The clinical impact of these combinations is hard to predict. There is no reason to expect it is anything but good."

"The question is, how good?" In some initial trials of other protease half the participants have experienced a drop in viral load so dramatic that "it becomes undetectable on the RNA-PCR test, below 200 copies. That's amazing," Delaney emphasized that this "is not about Saquinavir, it is about the whole class of drugs."

Some treatment activists have been less enthusiastic about the Roche product because other protease in development look more promising. But Delaney is not so quick to jump on that bandwagon. "There may be some advantages to Saquinavir because there are only two mutation points that can produce [viral] resistance," he observed, while the other products in development have many more.

He believes the problem of bioavailability within the body may be overcome. Liver enzymes "chew up" Saquinavir, but initial trials have shown ways to block that action and "Saquinavir blood levels start to skyrocket."

TAG is worried about possible cross-resistance with other protease inhibitors. TAG Policy Director Mark Harrington warned that "until more reliable information on this cross-resistance becomes available, the labeling of the drug should clearly indicate that use of Saquinavir may limit the clinical and virological utility of future protease inhibitors."

Other protease inhibitors are in advanced stages of trial and should be before the committee by early next year. It seems likely that by summer at least three different protease compounds will be approved and commercially available. ▼

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Australian Case Reopens HIV Vaccine Controversy

by Susan Milius
UPI Science Writer

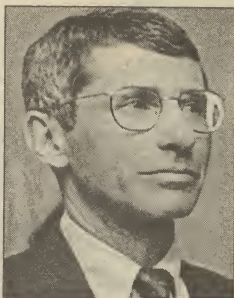
Seven Australians who seem to have beaten HIV have done so because the virus strain itself was genetically damaged, researchers said Thursday, November 9, reopening a controversy about making vaccines.

A gay man who caught the virus between December 1980 and April 1981 donated blood used for at least seven people in Australia, said Nicholas Deacon from the Macfarlane Burnet Centre for Medical Research in Fairfield, Australia, and neither the donor nor the recipients have shown signs of damage to their immune systems 15 years later.

One of the recipients beat the odds on AIDS — but died of another disease, said researchers.

The survivors of the blood bank group differ from long-term survivors of AIDS because the Australians seem to have normal immune systems, unlike most AIDS survivors, who remain alive but show damaged immunity.

Deacon and colleagues from the center collaborated with scientists from Westmead Hospital in Westmead, Australia, to figure out why these people look so healthy when other recipients of bad blood started deteriorating in about 6.5 years.



Anthony Fauci.

Published in the new issue of the journal *Science*, their research found that the viral strain passed along by the donor has DNA missing in a gene called "nef." The gene affects the process of making more virus, and without it, scientists consider the virus weakened, or "attenuated."

"This attenuated strain of HIV-1, therefore, could perhaps be the basis for a live attenuated vaccine," concluded the researchers.

Such talk raises controversy in the AIDS community. At least a dozen vaccines are in development now, and none uses live

virus as the basis, said Anthony Fauci, head of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases in Bethesda, Maryland.

Using a live virus alarms scientists, said Fauci, because of the risk that a weak virus, once in the body, will revert to a dangerous form.

He also pointed out that HIV, unlike many other disease organisms, inserts itself into the genetic material of cells in the host's immune system and stays there for life.

That presence worries Fauci because a study of an AIDS-like disease in newborn monkeys suggested that even a weak virus could cause symptoms in individuals with frail immune systems. "There are a lot of things in life that can compromise your immune system," said Fauci. If someone has a resident AIDS virus and needs medical therapy that flattens immunity, "then you'd be in some serious trouble," he said.

However, the live virus idea continues to interest some researchers because the live vaccines have offered the best protection against polio, measles, and smallpox.

"Historically, the best vaccines have been live attenuated virus," said Fauci. ▼

Paying the HIV Drug Piper

by Bob Roeher

The cost of state of the art treatment for PWAs just got higher. That's the mostly bad news from the Food and Drug Administration advisory committee that recommended marketing approval of three more HIV drugs — d4T, 3TC, and Saquinavir — at a meeting November 6-8 near Washington, DC.

"It's good news for people who have private health insurance," acknowledged Gary Rose, treatment specialist with the national advocacy group AIDS Action Council: their insurers are now assured of picking up the costs of the new medications. But only about half of PWAs have private health insurance, while the other half rely upon Medicaid and AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAP). And the outlook there is more troubling.

"3TC is going to cost the same as AZT, maybe a little less," Rose said. "Saquinavir, who knows? I've heard numbers all over the map." Roche will not discuss pricing, but the protease class of drugs is difficult to manufacture and its price will be high.

Peter Staley, with the New York-based Treatment Action Group (TAG), called it "critical that manufacturers price their new drugs at affordable levels."

Homar Perez with the National Association of People With AIDS (NAPWA) warned, "There is no doubt that growing healthcare cuts will prevent thousands of Americans with HIV disease from receiving these new treatments."

Rose went further, and stated, "There are going to be states where Saquinavir will not be available if you are poor."

The problems are twofold. The first is wisely spending the money available under ADAP programs in Title II of the Ryan White CARE Act. The second concerns adequate levels of funding for the programs.

Rose maintains there are "state ADAP directors who are making these decisions either on the basis of too much information or on who just came in the door."

One part of the puzzle may be found in a group of activists, government, and industry representatives who first sat down November 6. They are trying to work out core formula guidelines for

ADAP programs. "If we can draft it carefully enough it can be a really useful educational tool," Rose said.

In theory these expensive new medications will defer hospitalization and may allow the body to restore its immune system to the point where prophylaxis for opportunistic infections can be reduced or eliminated.

"If you can keep people from progressing, out of the hospital, the net result might be cheaper," said Martin Delaney with Project Inform in San Francisco. "But somebody has to do cross-benefit analysis."

Rose calls that "our key job in the next year." His "intuitive sense" is that these medications are cost effective, "but you can't sell intuition to this Congress. We have to be able to document it."

The arguments will be difficult ones to implement, because they affect different "pockets" of government. Savings may come from decreased Medicaid payments for hospitalization, but that may be depend upon increasing funding for ADAP. There are different winners and losers in the bureaucratic funding game. ▼



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AIDS FILE

DAIRing Escape from Flames

by Mary Ann Swissler

Michael Flanagan of the Documentation of AIDS Issues and Research project (DAIR) reports that most of the project's HIV/AIDS-related news and magazine articles escaped the flames that destroyed St. Paulus Church Sunday, November 5.

DAIR was located in the basement of St. Paulus.

Flanagan told the *Bay Area Reporter* that DAIR's huge clipping file of research papers and articles from the gay and straight press was still basically intact. Only a few magazines and newspaper articles that had not yet been clipped were waterlogged.

Opposition to AIDS housing in Berkeley is one ecology author's idea of staying "green." ACT UP/East Bay is calling for a boy and girl-cott of AIDS housing NIMBYer Carolyn Merchant's 7:30 p.m. appearance tonight (Thursday, November 16) at Black Oaks Bookstore, located at 1491 Shattuck Avenue in Berkeley. A prime opponent of the Rose Street AIDS housing project, Merchant will appear tonight to hawk her book *Earthcare: Women and the Environment*.

Merchant, who lives across from the site of the defunct Rose Street AIDS housing facility, was a vocal opponent of the plan and was one of four authors of an "alternative" plan that paved the way for the current AIDS Housing Task Force. "We call on the public to boycott her latest book -- go read it in the library," said John Iversen of ACT UP/East Bay.

ACT UP will peacefully assemble at 6:50 p.m. in front of the



Photo: Rick Gerhart

All that's left of St. Paulus Lutheran Church on Gough Street.

store. "We will not disrupt," Iversen said. "Carolyn can read in peace with her dead-end ideals while those hundreds who have passed in Berkeley from AIDS do not rest in peace."

Facing The Future ...Together is the theme of a UCSF AIDS Health Project benefit on Monday, November 27. In addition to honoring the service of Pat Christen, co-author of the Ryan White CARE Act and executive director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, and benefiting the UCSF AIDS Health Project, the Gala Cabaret will feature an array of jugglers, magicians, opera singers, comedians, and other entertainers. Gourmet hors d'oeuvres and wine will be served throughout the evening, which gets underway at 6 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Embarcadero.

Tickets begin at \$75. For more information call (415) 476-6430.

Movies=AIDS activism in the East Bay. A silent art auction extravaganza is under way inside the lobby of the Shattuck Cinemas, located at 2200 Shattuck Avenue in downtown Berkeley, through Friday, December 8. Bids will be taken on paintings, ceramic, textiles, jewelry, and other pieces of art.

World-famous and local artists, craftspersons, and firms that have donated works include HIV-positive artist John Neilson, Ruth Bernhard, Barbara Anderson Gallery, Berkeley Arts, University Art Museum, Alice Erb of the Tail of the Yak Trading Co., Scott Bralley, David Lance Goines, Adela Akers, and many more.

Bids range from \$25 to \$500. Proceeds will benefit ACT-UP/East Bay.

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CHIPS

Continued from page 1

intake.

Further complicating the process has been that while the program is first-come first-served according to the lottery number drawn, the requirements of each subsidy program are not universal. Levy explained that some are women-only programs, some are for persons of color, some for families, some for the homeless, and so on.

Despite that, she said, it's still an improvement over the previous, decentralized system where clients had to travel to several agencies to apply for housing.

That argument isn't very comforting for someone like San Francisco resident Edward Zold, currently number 1,124 on the waiting list. Zold told the *Bay Area Reporter* that while he's grateful for all the lobbying that non-profits do to keep AIDS housing, "By the time they're ready to place people, it'll be ready to expire."

Zold said the system is cumbersome and the process is lengthy: "We're talking about people who are very ill and are low-income. The hoops that you are required to jump through to prove that you are eligible are really ridiculous."

Levy responded that requirements are put in place by the housing providers, not CHIPS administrators, adding, "We try to be as un-bureaucratic as we can." Providers require documentation for three things, she said: a letter of diagnosis, proof of San Francisco residency or a statement of

their intent to stay here -- Levy stressed that CHIPS does not discriminate on the basis of national origin -- and proof of income or lack of income. Once again, she stressed, it's not that strict; even a self-declaration will do.

Different programs carry different annual income ceilings, Levy said, with the highest being \$20,500 under HUD requirements. Just to get on the wait list, clients have to fill out an enrollment form including contact information. Then there's an intake interview when their name comes up.

Levy added that tracking down some clients, whose addresses and phone numbers have changed, can be time consuming.

For example, she told the *B.A.R.*, approximately 80 subsidies through the San Francisco AIDS Foundation have been held up because case workers cannot locate clients. ▼

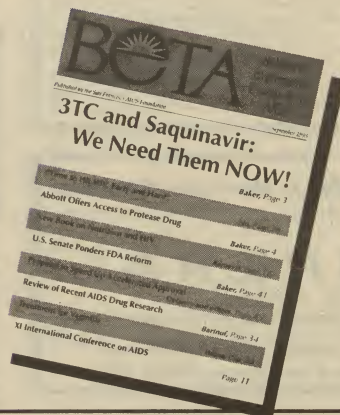
Initial enrollment forms can be picked up at any HIV/AIDS service provider office, or the Department of Public Health office at 25 Van Ness Avenue.

Monthly CHIPS advisory meetings are held at the Dorothy Day Community Center, located at 54 McAllister Street, on the corner of 7th Street. The next one will be held Thursday, December 14 from 9 to 11 a.m.

If you have moved or changed your telephone number since being accepted into the CHIPS data base call 928-5920 to update that information.

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K. CRAIG INNES

January 17, 1960 – October 28, 1995

K. Craig Innes died in San Francisco on October 28, 1995 from complications related to AIDS. He was 35.

Mr. Innes was born in San Francisco and spent most of his childhood living in Redwood City. He was a graduate of Woodside High School and attended Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington.

Craig spent most of his adult life working on the Broadway Stage in New York City where he excelled as a dancer, dance instructor and choreographer. Some of his credits include: *110 in the Shade*, *Jerome Robbins' Broadway*, *Me and My Girl*, *42nd Street*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Meet Me in St. Louis*, *Legs Diamond* and the TV movie *Mae West Story*.

In declining health, Craig returned to San Francisco to enjoy time with his family and to share his gift and experience as a dance instructor with others. In one of his finest accomplishments, he wrote, produced, directed and choreographed *Sensation*, an auto-biographical collection of music and dance, in essence, his own memorial. *Sensation* was performed as an AIDS benefit at the Jewish Community Center in San Francisco.

Craig is survived by his mother and stepfather, Shirley and Lawrence Burnett, grandmother, Rosella Stewart, brother, Kevin, niece, Jennifer Innes, sister and brother-in-law, Debra and Bob, and nephew, Bryan Johnson, aunts, Diane Innes, and Nancy Kathary, and many other relatives and friends. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, November 18th, at 5:00pm, at Dancers Synectics, 564 Monterey Blvd., in San Francisco. Donations may be made in memory of K. Craig Innes, to Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, 165 West 46th Street, Suite 1300, New York, NY 10036.

Mr. Innes' family wishes to acknowledge Davies Hospital and staff, especially 2-North, for the care and love extended to Craig and us during his stay there. We thank you more than words can express. To doctors Capakini and Follansbee and their associates, a special "Thank You."



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If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you enclose a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Gene Louis Phelps

Dec. 5, 1951 - Nov. 2, 1995

Gene Phelps, a.k.a. KooKoo Birdlegs, died on Nov. 2 of the usual cause. Born in rural Kansas, he realized by the end of high school that, given his sexual proclivities and partying propensities, Kansas was not the place for him. Fleeing westward after two years of college and one of beauty school, he arrived in San Francisco in 1972. He always felt blessed that he landed in the perfect place at the perfect time and his life was that of many of his age: sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll.

He will be remembered not only for his wild party ways, but also for his peculiar standards of ethics. He was fiercely loyal to his friends and his convictions. He was proud that he was a person of backbone, not afraid to voice what he felt.

He will be missed by his mother, Virginia Phelps of Herrington, Kansas (who can be credited with instilling in Gene his convictions and backbone), and by his friends, Rod, Edta, Shari, Diana, Kim, Laura and many others.

A memorial gathering will be held on Sunday, Nov. 19, 3-5 p.m. For information call Rod Leong at (415) 386-2112. ▼

Gregory Lewis Lunsford

Nov. 9, 1959 - Oct. 19, 1995

Greg made his transition on October 19 in his home. Born in Missouri, he moved to San Francisco in the early 1980s from Florida. He established himself in the hospitality industry, and was really one of the most professional and well-respected tour guides this city has ever had. With his unique sense of humor and his flair for fashion, he will be missed by many people.

Greg was an extremely private person. While he fought a tremendous battle, he always remained in control. Thank you to his nurses, friends and caregivers. You are all very special people.

Greg is survived by his father, brother, sisters and numerous others. A memorial service will be held later this year. Please remember Kairos House and ACT UP/Golden Gate. Cheers, baby doll! I love you and think about you every day. Remember, legends are never forgotten. ▼

David M. Stockford

October 31, 1995

David died peacefully October 31 of HIV-related complications. Present at his death was his companion of 21 years, Michael Steele.

David was one of the first openly gay psychiatrists in the Bay Area, and his openness and position as role model helped many others to be free and open in their own lives. He was a Jungian analyst, member of the C.G. Jung Institute of San Francisco.

David is survived by his companion; two nephews in San Francisco, Bruce Gussenhoven and Ronald Ferguson; and six sisters across the country. ▼

George "Bubba" Geiger

June 11, 1950 - Sept. 25, 1995

Bubba died in Santa Barbara of AIDS. Born in Mullins, S.C., and educated at the University of South Carolina and Baptist College, Bubba moved to San Francisco in 1974 as part of the great wave of young men pioneering the Castro.

His droll and kindly wit, sharp sense of timing, and intellectual and artistic passions endeared this gentle man to many. While pursuing himself as a waiter and a gardener, he pursued his life's true love, painting. He curated memorable art exhibits at Zuni Cafe, owned by his dear friend, the late Billy West.

For several years Bubba and his lover, John Wilson (who died earlier this year), migrated seasonally between Key West and Provincetown, settling in Santa Barbara in 1982. In the late '80s Bubba helped found Santa Barbara's highly regarded Oak Group of plein-air artists. A retrospective of Bubba's paintings is being organized by the group at Art Resources in Santa Barbara for January 1996. Phone 805-684-4802.

Bubba is survived by his mother, Louise; sisters, Kay and Bernice, all of Charleston, S.C.; one nephew and one niece; and by his lover from the San Francisco '70s, Jay Schneider. SF memorial info: 863-1498. ▼

Keith Ray

Nov. 26, 1950 - Oct. 6, 1995

Keith died at home as was his wish, with his mother, sister and friends at his side. His struggle with AIDS was courageous and mercifully short. The destruction was massive, but thankfully the physical pain was minimal.

Keith was a longtime Bay Area resident, who was educated in San Rafael and had degrees from San Francisco State. Professionally, he chose banking, with many years at Crocker Bank and Bank of America. His last position was with the California Automobile Association.

Keith's passion was bowling. He was president of both the Monday and Wednesday Tavern Guild leagues for several years. He always attended I.G.B.O. tournaments, though he never did win any. He was national co-chair of bowling for Gay Games II. His proudest moment in the sport was taking the gold in Gay Games I in 1982 representing San Rafael.

Donations may be made in memory of Keith to the SF AIDS Emergency Fund. A celebration of his life will be held November 26. For information call (510) 687-1930.

Martha, you will be greatly missed by Chris, Bill, your family, and everyone who knew and loved you. Rest in peace, sweetheart. ▼

Michael Thomas Schneider

Oct. 2, 1945 - Oct. 8, 1995

Michael T. Schneider passed away on Oct. 8 at 3:18 a.m. With him was a longtime friend and former co-worker.

Mike grew up in NYC, and after a stint in the military, he returned home and started a business which didn't quite work out. He later migrated to San Francisco after a short stay in Los Angeles.

Mike worked for a number of years as an EMT/paramedic for the City and County of San Francisco. He eventually worked for the Veterans Administration at Fort Miley, where he was well-liked by the medical and non-medical staff.

Mike entered the hospital at Fort Miley in July, where he remained until his passing. He was well-loved by his friends, who spent his last few days with him. His kindness, generosity and unique sense of humor will be sorely missed.

Mike was cremated, and his ashes were scattered here in the area he greatly loved. A small memorial will be held at the Donatello Hotel on Nov. 18, to be followed by the "full-tilt boogie" party he requested for his friends.

"If I follow the light in the tunnel, it will probably be a train, with my luck." - M.T.S. ▼

Ron Emery

June 6, 1953 - Nov. 6, 1995

Ron released himself from this life in the arms of his loving mother, Dot

Pendro, with his sister, Linda, nearby. He went to join the love of his life, Dan Pogrellis, who preceded Ron in death by two years. He was also met on the other side by his loves, Rodger and Bobby, and his little dog, Merle.

Ron lived in San Francisco 23 years. He was HIV positive for 17 years and fought the disease in his own unique way.

Ron had an extraordinary personality. He was feisty, generous and knew how to party. He will be remembered for his long-standing role as a waiter at Carlene's of Maui restaurant. Later he created beautiful gardens all over San Francisco. He was an extraordinary sculptor and could form the most beautiful male physiques out of clay.

Ron was a great friend to many people. During his sickness over the past year, he lost some of his friends due to his drug use and dementia. It is hoped that everyone can remember Ron the way he was before the ravages of this ugly disease destroyed his body, mind and soul.

For memorial information contact his friend Dave Mahon at (415) 206-9222. ▼

Douglas Paul Stevens

April 16, 1953 - Nov. 5, 1995

Lover and friend, gourmet chef, landscape artist, entrepreneur, union worker, latex/leatherman.

A third generation Californian, our dearest Doug passed peacefully into the light on Nov. 5. His legacy to our community includes opening the Bakery Cafe (now the Patio Cafe), the City Athletic Club and at least three beautiful gardens.

HIV-positive for 16 years, Doug remained asymptomatic until two months before his death. He maintained that his positive attitude and his minimizing unnecessary stress kept him healthy for so long. Only when an incurable infection was diagnosed this October did Doug give up his last hope that he could "be here for the cure."

Doug is survived by his lover, Larry Blake; father, Ken Stevens Sr.; brother, Ken Stevens; brother and sister-in-law, Mark and Connie Ayers-Stevens; and nieces, Shena and Eva.

We all can take comfort in knowing that our lives are more fun and happier because of Doug Stevens. Just as Doug knew, knows, that each of us has blessed his life with love and happiness.

In lieu of flowers, donations to his memory may be given to the SF AIDS Emergency Fund or the Betty Link Performing Arts Center (c/o Herbert Hoover Middle School). ▼

Bruce B. Decker

November 11, 1995

Bruce B. Decker, 45, of Beverly Hills, Calif., died comfortably at his home on Saturday, Nov. 11, of AIDS complications. He was a former resident of Washington, D.C., San Francisco ('81-'87), Palm Springs and Fire Island, N.Y.

Mr. Decker was a political consultant, corporate strategist and philanthropist who dedicated himself almost exclusively to AIDS research, education and treatment programs after discovering his own HIV-positive status 11 years ago.

As founder and president of the Health Policy and Research Foundation, he worked to coordinate long-term planning and funding for government and private sector AIDS intervention projects. Mr. Decker also served as chairman of the California AIDS Advisory Committee, appointed by then Governor George Deukmejian in 1984 to advise the governor, legislature and Department of Health Services on AIDS policy matters. In 1985, he assisted Elizabeth Taylor, Dr. Michael Gottlieb and Dr. Mathilde Krim in founding the American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR).

Mr. Decker began his political career as a White House advance assistant for President Gerald Ford. He also worked as an assistant to Vice President Nelson Rockefeller and on travel projects for President Jimmy Carter.

He is survived by his mother, Julia H. Decker; father and stepmother, William and Ann Decker; sister, Pamela Daner; niece, Laura; nephew, Chris; and many friends. A memorial party is being planned for early December. Donations to the AIDS Healthcare Foundation of Los Angeles. ▼

OBITUARIES

Michael F. Rodriguez

March 10, 1964 - Sept. 11, 1995

Michael Rodriguez passed away peacefully on Monday, Sept. 11, at Kaiser, Sacramento.



Michael was born and raised in Sacramento, later moving to Pittsburg, Calif., where he lived for a few years before moving back home to Sacramento. His career included working as an assistant manager at Security Pacific National Bank and later as a retirement specialist for First Nationwide Bank.

Although things did not come easily to Michael, he chose to live his life to the fullest, enjoying each day, making the most of it, and always ending his day with a smile on his face and putting one on the face of those around him. Disco dancing was one of Michael's passions, and he loved to go out and dance. Long drives, sharing those special moments with friends and, yes, collecting T-shirts were among some of his other interests.

Michael leaves behind a multitude of friends and relatives. How really very lucky I feel to have shared some of his life with him. Michael, our paths will cross once again (I just know it) to finish that party we started here. Until then, may you rest in peace. ▼

Del Marty Rodriguez a.k.a. Marty Douglas

May 16, 1964 - Oct. 25, 1995

Marty, 31, passed away in San Francisco on Oct. 25. He was the beloved son of Delores Comerford and the late David D. Rodriguez; stepson of Lewis Comerford; beloved brother of Douglas Rodriguez of Suisun and Robert Rodriguez of Vallejo; and the beloved uncle of Francesca Rodriguez.

Marty recently relocated from Manhattan, where he was involved in Broadway theatre, doing world tours of *Evita* and *West Side Story*. He was a graduate of Hogan High School in Vallejo and San Francisco State University.

Marty's love and talent for performing and dancing took him around the world. Everywhere he went, he made friends. During the last six months, he continued to have a positive attitude and fought courageously to the end.

You had such little time on earth, and you accomplished so much. We are proud of you, Marty, and we will never forget you. You will live in our hearts forever. We love you.

Donations in Marty's name should be sent to the SF AIDS Foundation. ▼

Peter Dorian

June 29, 1954 - Oct. 1, 1995

Peter Dorian (born Anthony Ciarra) passed peacefully on Oct. 1 at Kaiser Hospice, San Francisco.



It is said that you're never really gone while others remember you, and Peter will be remembered by his family and his family of friends.

Those who knew him through bowling, bingo and softball; his friends and coworkers at United Airlines; and all those who shared his unique spark will miss him.

Peter will be remembered by his father, Manuel; his brother, Nick; Nick's wife, Theresa; his aunt, Jenny; his partner and best friend, Doug; and everyone fortunate to have known this wonderful man.

There will be a memorial for Peter very soon. If interested, please call (415) 673-8471 for further information. ▼

David B. Bolles

November 5, 1995

David died in Massachusetts on November 5. He was the beloved brother of Doug and Steve; dear brother-in-law of Lynn; devoted uncle of Kelley, Ashley, Lauren and Jake; and the loving son of Bob and Carolyn. He will be dearly missed by many friends in San Francisco and the Bay Area.

San Francisco called to David in 1984, and although he left periodically to go "home," he kept returning to San Francisco because he loved the city and her people. We will remember David's graciousness, his caring way of being a friend, his love of the sun, the nightlife, of freedom.

A memorial service was held November 11 at Pilgrim House Chapel in Brunswick, Maine. In lieu of flowers, friends are asked to send contributions to Project Open Hand in San Francisco.

A private memorial service will be held locally. A tree will be planted in David's name, so David will still be a part of San Francisco. That tree will live long after we, too, are gone. Throughout the seasons, it will be beautiful, and grow tall, strong and healthy, as David will be remembered. Please remember him in your personal prayers. ▼

BBC TV PROGRAM

wishes to interview people who've taken part in the early drug trials...

- Phase 2

(1986, AZT on AIDS patients);

- 019

(1989, AZT on HIV sufferers).

If you're interested please contact Annella Wynyard at (415) 673-4478.

The filming would take place between the 20th-22nd of November.



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Making a Joyful Noise



Photo: Jane Phummen Cleland

The Lesbian and Gay Chorus of San Francisco is already gearing up for the holiday season. They paid tribute Nov. 4 to women composers at a special program at the Trinity Episcopal Church on Bush and Franklin sts. The popular group has other appearances scheduled for the Yuletide. Call 861-7067 for more information.



SAMUEL BRUCE BOBO

December 5, 1964 - November 5, 1995

"It is better to light one Candle than to curse the darkness."

Sam was called home suddenly, into the Divine Light, in the early morning hours of All Saints Day. Throughout his 30 years of life within this realm, Sam was responsible for lighting not one, but thousands of candles for humanity, through his strong compassion for all living things, and his natural dedication to reach out and help others around him.

Sam lived the last year and a half of his life in San Francisco, and during that time he dedicated himself as an R.N. for San Francisco Home Care to serve AIDS patients and the terminally ill at home. A native of Florence, Alabama, Sam is survived by his parents, Scotty and Kathy Bobo, sister Alicia Bobo-Wilson, brother and sister-in-law, Chris and Jill Bobo, grandparents, Horace and Martha Louise Springer, niece, Caroline Bobo, and nephew, Ben Wilson, all from Alabama, along with his companion, Chris Hanna, kitties Stevie and SpaceMan, and many other friends, coworkers, and patients.

Funeral services were held on Thursday, November 9th, at Trinity Episcopal Church in Florence, Alabama which were officiated by Father Tim Murphy, with Pallbearers Richard Hubbard, Arthur Tipper, David Edwards, Brad McClune, Chris Bobo, and Chris Hanna.

A Celebration of Life will be held in Sam's memory at 11am on Sunday, November 19, 1995 in the AIDS Memorial Grove, Golden Gate Park, located near Sharon Meadows at the intersection of Bowling Green Drive and Middle Drive East. A Vine Maple will be planted near the Fern Gardens on Saturday the 18th to honor Sam's life and service to others. For additional information, contact Chris Hanna at (415) 759-8354. Memorial donations may be made to the AIDS Memorial Grove, the Hospice of the Shoals, P.O. Box 307, Florence, AL 35631-0307, or the AIDS organization of your choice.

Sam, your Candle will always light my heart brightly, as I am sure it will for the many other people that you touched in this life. And as you recently wrote, we will all remember that "The Faith and Light will shine through Us, surround Us, and beyond...Peace and Love." Keep shining my darling.

Currently Enrolling Study:

Curdlan Sulfate

for treatment of HIV disease

Dr. Steven Deeks is conducting a study involving three dose levels of curdlan sulfate at the UCSF AIDS Program at San Francisco General Hospital. Curdlan sulfate is a semi-synthetic sulfated polysaccharide (like dextran sulfate or heparin). Its anti-viral effect is to inhibit HIV attachment to CD4 cells. This is an open label study: all participants will receive study drug.

We are seeking men and women who are HIV positive with T-cell counts less than 500 and no active opportunistic infections or cancers other than KS.

This is a 21-day, outpatient study with daily 30-minute infusions. All lab work, medical exams and study drug will be provided without cost.

Participants will be reimbursed \$500 if all visits are completed.

For more information, please
call: 353-5623

David R. Senechek M.D.

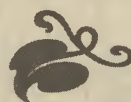
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KNOWLEDGE IS POWER.

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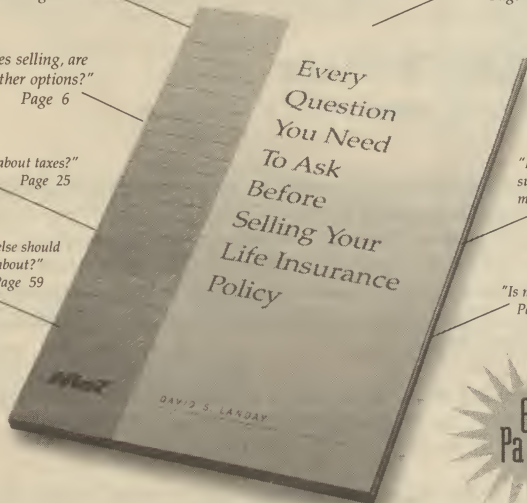
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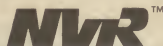
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HEALTH PERSPECTIVE

AIDS Housing Funds Slipping

by Ben Carlson,
Mobilization Against AIDS



Bill Clinton

The Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS (HOPWA) Act, which was first authorized in 1990 as part of the National Affordable Housing Act, helps to prevent poor people with HIV and AIDS from becoming homeless or depending on high-cost emergency care facilities. Through HUD, HOPWA allocates housing funds to jurisdictions with a high incidence of HIV/AIDS disease, to be administered locally.

In the San Francisco Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area (which includes San Francisco, San Mateo, and Marin counties), for instance, the HIV Health Services Planning Council allocates over 50% of the funds provided by HOPWA for capital development to pay for acquisition, construction, and rehabilitation of buildings. About 25% of the funds go toward lease and/or rental assistance. Administrative costs use only about 6% of the funds. The remainder pays for support services including mental health assessment, permanent housing placement, drug and alcohol abuse treatment and counseling, day care, nutritional services, and assistance in accessing government benefits and services.

In July, the House of Representatives voted to merge funds for HOPWA, housing for seniors ("Section 202" housing, in bu-

reaucrates), Section 811 housing for the disabled, and Section 8 housing for the poor into a single "special needs" account, for which \$1.44 billion would be provided for FY '96. Given that the combined total appropriated for these programs for FY '95 was \$1.85 billion, this plan represented an enormous 22% cut.

When the Veterans Administration/Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Bill was passed along from the House of Representatives to the Senate, it was amended in several ways. Rather than lump sections 202, 811, 8, and HOPWA into a single "special needs" account as the House did, the Senate preserved them as separate line-items—good news for AIDS advocates, who wish to ensure that AIDS housing providers can count on federal assistance. However, the Senate allocated only \$171 million for HOPWA, holding funding for the program down to its post-rescission (reduced) 1995 level.

Because the version of the VA/HUD Appropriations Bill passed by the Senate differs from the version passed by the House, the two chambers of Congress have formed a joint conference committee, as is standard in such situations, to rectify the differences. After the necessary compromises are made, the final bill will be sent back to the two chambers for approval, and then, if approved, will be presented to the president for his signature or veto.

Housing Isn't Clinton's Priority

The president has already announced his intention to veto the bill, because it would cut AmeriCorps, homeless and housing programs, and environmental programs too deeply. Lacking enough votes to override such a veto, Congress will be forced to modify the bill by making concessions to the president. Therefore, the VA/HUD Appropriations Conference is significant primarily because the bill that emerges will serve as a starting point for negotiations on modifications.

If President Clinton's veto message emphasizes his displeasure with inadequate funding for AIDS housing programs, Congress will be likely to increase that funding somewhat. Unfortunately,

AIDS advocates don't expect Clinton to focus on AIDS housing.

"Nobody in the housing community thinks we're going to be done any favors when Clinton vetoes this bill, because housing just isn't his priority," said Aimee Berenson, legislative counsel of the AIDS Action Council.

That means AIDS advocates have to work hard to make sure that the bill that emerges from the conference committee is as favorable as possible to HOPWA.

Although the Senate's decision to preserve line-items for assisted housing is preferable to the House's decision to roll them into a lump sum, the Senate appears to be stingier with funds. Whereas the House would allocate \$1.44B for the combined "special needs" housing programs, the corresponding line items in the Senate's version of the bill only add up to \$1.18B.

The Senate's cut to HOPWA for FY '96 was exacerbated by 12 new jurisdictions qualifying for HOPWA funding in FY '96, bringing the total of such jurisdictions to 78. That means that on average, qualifying jurisdictions will receive 22% less AIDS housing funds in FY '96 than was appropriated for them in FY '95.

"If we lose HOPWA money, people will lose their housing subsidies," said Bob Nelson, director of public policy and media relations for Catholic Charities of San Francisco, the largest provider of AIDS housing on the West Coast. "We had a little over 200 available subsidies last year, and 1,500 eligible people applied for them. We now have over 2,000 eligible people on the waiting list."

"At every level, demand exceeds our ability to meet it," said Kandyce Collins, residential services program manager for the San Francisco Office of AIDS.

HOPWA Saves Millions a Year

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, one-third to one-half of the approximately 150,000 people with AIDS in the U.S. are either homeless or at risk of becoming so. It's estimated that \$1 million of HOPWA funds pays for 188 units of housing and assists 269 people who might otherwise be homeless. According to the Journal of American Medicine, the average daily cost of an AIDS acute care bed is \$1085. A bed in an AIDS skilled nursing facility costs about \$500 a day. HOPWA, therefore, saves taxpayers many millions of dollars per year.

Nelson suggests that citizens write to their state and Federal elected representatives to raise their awareness about the importance of AIDS housing. Write to President Clinton and tell him that housing for people with AIDS must be a top priority in post-veto negotiations. Send your letter to President Bill Clinton, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20500, or call him at 202-456-1414. ▼

Action Update

How's Your HMO Treating You?

ACT UP/GG is collecting information to use in improving healthcare for PWAs at Kaiser and other HMOs.

Call the ACT UP/Golden Gate HMO line: (415) 824-9160.

ACT UP/Golden Gate meets every Tuesday at 7:30 at 592 Castro Street. Everyone is welcome.

Bitter Melon Enema Blues

by Michael C. Botkin

The other day my friend Ozzie had me over to watch him self-administer a bitter melon enema, a popular alternative treatment. When he was finished, I couldn't help but offer a minor criticism: "Ozzie, I'm no expert on this stuff, but everything that I've read about bitter melon enemas suggests that the procedure is done with an extract of melon juice, rather than with an entire, intact melon as you've just done."

He thought about it solemnly for a moment. "No doubt some practitioners are trying to 'mainstream' their treatments to make them look more 'normal,' but I think I'll stick with the more purely natural methods," he declared. Like most "alternative" treatment enthusiasts, Ozzie is largely immune to logical argument and anything that smacks of empiricism or otherwise displays the shackles of traditional, blindered American medical ideology.

Despite my discouraging display of doubt, Ozzie invited me to stay for lunch. "What are you having?" I asked. "Bitter melon soup," he answered. And although Ozzie is quite fanatical about washing his produce — he even rinses his salad greens in bleach — I declined. Without meaning to, Ozzie had given me a case of the bitter melon enema blues.

The core of the issue is this: If you're an HIVer, let alone a highly progressed one like me, with a T-cell count lower than Bill Clinton's approval ratings, there are all these things that you probably should be doing — nay, must be doing — to preserve your health. Many people are willing to tell you what they are, to insist that you do them, and to remind you that the failure to do so is suicide and that you'll have no one to blame for your troubles but yourself if you ignore the obvious truths which they reveal unto you.

They are a close cousin of the food nazis who warn you of the dangerous effects of alcohol, caffeine, chocolate, fat, or whatever tempting poison you (and they) crave, particularly by misquoting vaguely understood science news headlines. The problem is that while they can tell you about all the treatments you might want to try, they never tell you how to figure out if something isn't worth bothering with.

Pills-R-US

Many HIV treatments suffer from the "elephant banishing charm" effect. These wonderfully efficient charms are sold in locales thousands of miles away from the nearest elephant, which proves that they work! A successful HIV treatment is one that keeps the pa-

tient from getting sicker. So, in a way, anything that doesn't kill you can be seen as making you stronger.

But if every time some well-meaning friend says, "Are you taking vitamin Z? According to this study, most HIVers really need it, and it only makes you a little photosensitive and costs only \$5 a week!" you actually start on vitamin Z, within a few months you'll be taking several alphabets worth of vitamins, pills, and drugs.

In fact, if you live more than a few years with HIV, you'll likely end up taking fistfuls of pills one way or another no matter what. If you eschew Western medical methods and seek the Chinese path, you'll either be taking twice as many pills or steeping bundles of sticks and drinking noxious tea instead. So my question for all vitamin pushers these days is this: "How will I know when I no longer need this product?"

This throws most vitamin salesmen for a complete loop. It never occurred to them that their suckers — er, customers — could be thinking of someday escaping from their clutches. The notion that some sort of solid criterion of success and failure could and should be applied to their products horrifies them — for the simple reason that they've evaded this kind of evaluation until now. Vitamins are just something you take ... forever. Cost is supposedly so minimal that it shouldn't even enter the picture.

But costs have been rising, which is why the FDA is threatening to horn in on the vitamin game, now that big bucks are involved. The vitamin and food supplement people are attempting to pull off a fighting retreat by vastly reducing their claims for what their products do. If they bill them as acting like drugs, then they justify the FDA's interest. If they can pass them off as just food supplements, it makes it easier to shrug off government supervision. But this then limits their ability to push their nostrums.

Booster Club

The most common claim made on behalf of alternative treatments for HIV is that they "boost immunity." It's fun to try and pin down just what is being claimed here, or indeed, what understanding the claimant has of the term "immunity" overall.

The immune system is a horribly complicated beast. It is a complex interaction of semi-independent organs and systems, communicating via a complicated barrage of hormones and cytokines. It's so full of checks and balances that you can't really "boost" it very easily, because any intervention you make on one part easily

boomerangs on another.

"Boosting the immune system" isn't always a good thing for an HIVer. Boosting the wrong part of the immune system can actually activate the virus and make it spread faster. Or you could boost both good and bad aspects of the immune system at the same time. This is what some activists fear happens with IL-2 therapy, which appears to dramatically boost T-cells and, in low T-cell HIVers, to also dramatically boost viral reproduction.

Clearly, to get anything good out of this mess requires a subtle and sensitive understanding of the immune system. And the vitamin boosters who insist that substance Z will "boost" immunity show no signs of having this understanding or of even having any idea that such plateaus exist.

So I shun their blanket statements and ask about simple, symptom-related effects. Typically their claims evaporate at this point, ending the debate. The things I really must have don't need an advocate to boost for them: three days after I ran out of acidophilus, I had the runs, which didn't stop until I got back on acidophilus (a simple, cheap digestive yeast).

But I refuse to make medical decisions based on political ideology. My friend Bill, from Seattle, still kicks himself for listening to singer Michael Callen about AZT — or would kick himself, if he still had sufficient control of his legs. "The week that I went below 200 T-cells and my doctor suggested I start on AZT, I went and heard Callen speak, and he said, 'AZT is

poison.' Why I listened to him, a singer, and not to my doctor, I don't know. But I decided not to take it."

Two weeks later Bill had a viral neurological attack all along his backbone. Prompt administration of AZT stopped its progress and saved his life, but it couldn't restore the damage already done. Although Bill can walk, with canes and great effort, he can't run, bicycle, or have sex. "What an idiot I was being politically correct instead of playing safe," he now laments. "AZT would

have prevented this, whatever it did or didn't do for my T-cells. If Callen was still alive, I'd call him up and give him a piece of my mind."

"Why did you fall for it at all, Bill?" I asked, since he's easily as cynical as I.

"I wanted to hope," he answered. "I wanted to believe that something could work, when it was clear that AZT didn't. Desire overcame reason, as is its wont."

Ah, hope, that elusive essence. If only you could be found in a vitamin, I'd take it every day! ▼

HIVCare begins enrollment for Allogeneic Lymphocyte Transfer Study.

HIVCare

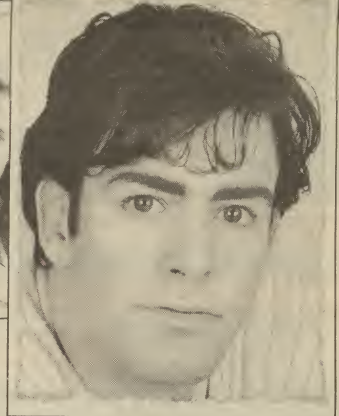
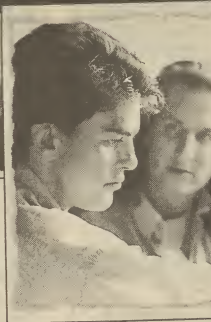
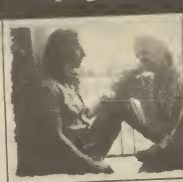
This is a pilot study to determine the potential benefits and safety of giving an HIV+ person their HIV+ sibling's lymphocytes as a supportive therapy. There are three infusions done, each one month apart. Eleven viral load tests and eleven T-cell counts will be performed in the course of the six-month study.

To enter, you need to meet the following criteria:

- ▲ HIV+
- ▲ CD4 count of 200 or less
- ▲ have a sister or brother who is genetically compatible (each has a 25%-50% chance of being eligible) and who meets other entry criteria
- ▲ stable on antiviral medication
- ▲ no serious infections
- ▲ willing to not use other experimental forms of treatment during the six months of the study (3TC and other expanded access drugs are okay)
- ▲ kidney, liver, and other blood functions in range for the study

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Thanksgiving

Continued from page 1

home. See the related story on page 1, and then call (415) 921-5026 to assist.

Also, since Thanksgiving is the gateway to the next big holiday blow-out, here's a preview of Christmastime/Chanukah/Kwanzaa/Winter Solstice stuff:

The drive to make the season bearable begins with the **Bears of San Francisco**, fittingly. BOSF will set up a collection barrel at **The Lone Star Saloon** from November 24 to December 15 for the annual Toys-For-Tots program. Drop off a new, unwrapped gift and receive a free well drink or domestic beer.

In the East Bay, **Out On The Island** will hold a toy and food

drive in conjunction with the **Red Cross** beginning the day after Thanksgiving, November 24 and running to December 14. New, unwrapped toys and packaged foods can be dropped off at OOTI offices located at **1020 Pacific Ave. in Alameda**, or at their next meeting on December 11 at 7:30 p.m. at 2311 Buena Vista Ave. in Alameda.

"Pushing the Limits" is a national food drive begun by **Leatherwomen United**, which will continue through December 31. "Whether it's helping serve the food, gathering canned and dry goods for local food banks or raising money to provide for those in need, we are working on the goal to have a safe, sane, consensual way to spend the holidays," said Pat Baillie, International Ms. Leather. Call (408) 464-2839. ▼

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- Study Requirements: T cells 100-500.
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② IL-2

- This injectable therapy has been associated with an increase in CD4 cells in some patients.
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WORLD NEWS

Australia Studying 'Gay Panic' Defense

by Bill Perry, UPI

Homophobia in Australia is proving to be an excuse for violence, even murder.

A special government investigative committee was set up to review 23 gay-hate related killings in the state of New South Wales since 1990. In 13 of the cases, the suspect used the so-called "gay panic defense." The inquiry followed outrage in Sydney's gay community over the acquittals or lenient sentences handed out to the killers of homosexuals.

Attorney David Buchanan, a member of the inquiry panel, said if the inquiry uncovers "unmeritorious acquittals," it would likely recommend changes in laws that allow a defendant to plead self-defense or provocation.

In recent years, judges and juries in Australia have accepted that homosexual advances constitute provocation, or that the defendant had acted in self-defense to ward off an indecent assault.

The issue was a major topic of discussion at Australia's first National Conference on Violence Against Lesbians and Gay Men, held recently in Sydney.

To coincide with the confer-

ence, Assistant Police Commissioner Alf Peate announced that authorities would establish a computer system to record the incidence of violence against homosexuals.

The conference was addressed by Justice Minister Duncan Kerr, state Police Minister Paul Whelan, and state Anti-Discrimination Board Commissioner Chris Puplick.

Whelan announced the establishment of a statewide hate crimes register, as well as an official organization for gay and lesbian police officers.

In his opening address, Kerr said he was "acutely aware of the work ahead of all Australian governments before we can claim that justice is available to gays and lesbians as it is to others in our community."

"Our society has shown time and time again that it can turn a blind eye to criminal violence by making the victim legally and socially invisible," he said.

The current inquiry began in May after Steven Bonner, 31, was acquitted of manslaughter charges in the death of openly gay Tom Arguet, 36.

According to Bruce Grant, coordinator of the Sydney Gay and

Lesbian Anti-Violence Project, the two men had known each other for months and were drinking together at a local pub. They and several others went to Bonner's apartment and continued drinking. Bonner claimed Arguet made sexual advances to him when the others left, so he panicked and cut Arguet's throat.

And then there was the beating death of Gordon Tuckey, described in testimony as a schizophrenic who believed himself to be a woman, on a bicycle path south of Sydney. A jury found Albert Dunn, 21, not guilty of murder as charged, but guilty of the lesser charge of manslaughter.

"Dunn stopped to talk to Tuckey and when he discovered he was a man in women's clothes bashed him," Grant said. "He then went away, came back, and bashed him again."

Dunn claimed that Tuckey had made advances toward him. According to Grant, Tuckey wasn't gay.

Judge Morris Ireland, who sentenced Dunn to 11 years in jail, said he accepted that Tuckey's "mode of dress" had opened it up for the jury to find provocation. ▼

Briton Gets Death in Singapore

by Dean Visser, UPI

British national John Martin Scripps was sentenced to death Friday, November 10 for the murder of South African tourist Gerard George Lowe in Singapore.

Scripps shared a hotel room in Singapore March 8 with Lowe, whose severed legs and torso subsequently were found floating in plastic bags near a Singapore pier.

After a trial that lasted more than a month and involved 21

witnesses and 570 exhibits, Justice T.S. Sinnathuray rejected Scripps's defense and his defense lawyer's request for a charge of manslaughter instead of murder.

"I order ... that you be taken from this place to a lawful prison and hence taken to a place of execution and hanged by the neck until you are dead. May the Lord have mercy on your soul," Sinnathuray said.

Scripps, who has been mentioned as a suspect in the dismemberment slaying of San Francisco resident Tom Wenger

and more definitely linked to dismemberment murders in Thailand and Mexico, slumped forward in his chair when the sentence was pronounced. He had to be supported by police officers as he was led from the steel and glass cage of the dock and out of the courtroom. His lawyer said he would appeal.

Scripps admitted beating Lowe to death with a hammer, but said it was in a fit of fear and rage after the victim made unwanted sexual advances toward him. ▼

Thais Expel Gays Who Beat Kiddy Sex Allegations

United Press International

On Wednesday, November 8 Thailand's Immigration Bureau slapped a deportation order on two British radio disc jockeys convicted earlier this week of manufacturing pornographic materials.

Clifford James Armstrong, 34, and Ian David Baker, 44, were publicly accused last month of promoting a child sex business on the FM 107 radio station. Police subsequently raided their Bangkok residences and found erotic photographs and videotapes. However, allegations that they had publicized a "call-boy" service over the air were found to be untrue when officials of the Mass Communications Organization of Thailand failed to find any

evidence on the station's taped programs.

The two were subsequently charged with manufacturing obscene materials for distribution, and sentenced Monday to a suspended three-month prison sentence and a fine of 3,000 baht (\$120) each.

Armstrong said after their trial Monday that they were victims of a "witch hunt" by a female radio staffer who claimed she had been treated unfairly when he was her manager.

A probation department report presented to the court Monday concluded that the "call-boy" accusations had been the invention of another announcer, Elizabeth Barnabas, who had been suspended from her job by Armstrong.

The report also said that a re-

view of 15 days of recordings of radio broadcasts had failed to turn up any evidence against the two men. Their lawyer had recommended they plead guilty to avoid a lengthy court case, Martin said.

"We can't afford to stay here and fight the charges," he told reporters.

The two were scheduled to leave for England at midnight Wednesday local time.

Media Plus, the company that produces programming for FM 107 under license from the Mass Communications Organization of Thailand, has subsequently been ordered to change the station to solely Thai language programming.

This has meant the loss of 28 jobs, including those of 17 foreign staff. ▼

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 199432

The following person(s) are doing business as 1) VANGUARD VISION STUDIOS, 2) XTRA MEDIA, 3450 Sacramento Street, Suite 502, San Francisco, CA 94118; DAVID GLEN JACKSON SHIELDS, 3737 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, CA 94118. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed DAVID SHIELDS. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 13, 1995.

Oct. 19, 26, 1995, Nov. 2, 9, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 199448

The following person(s) are doing business as CHICKEN BISTRO, 2232 A Geary Blvd., San Francisco, CA 94115; ARSID RODECHANAPHAIRATANA, 437 44th Avenue, #1, San Francisco, CA 94121 and ANOJIT ROJANAPAIAT, 439 44th Avenue, #3, San Francisco, CA 94121. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct. 16, 1995. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed RODECHANAPHAIRATANA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 16, 1995.

Oct. 19, 26, 1995, Nov. 2, 9, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 199776

The following person(s) are doing business as PASSPORT TO LEISURE TRAVEL, 2265 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94114; BCC TRAVEL, INC., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, 2265 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of October 30, 1995. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed DANIEL R. BILLINGS. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 30, 1995.

Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 199301

The following person(s) are doing business as FLYING PENGUINS, 360 Guerrero Street, #207, San Francisco, CA 94103; ALAN R. REARICK, 360 Guerrero Street, #207, San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct. 10, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed ALAN R. REARICK. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 10, 1995.

Oct. 19, 26, 1995, Nov. 2, 9, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 199878

The following person(s) are doing business as VALZOV, 888 Brannan Street, San Francisco, CA 94103; ALLA MAMADZHANORA, 111 Jones Street #719, San Francisco, CA 94102, and ZOYA VERDIYAN, 4433 Lincoln Way, #4, San Francisco, CA 94122. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of October 31, 1995. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed ALLA MAMADZHANORA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 01, 1995.

Nov. 9, 16, 23, 30, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 200092

The following person(s) are doing business as TONIS CONSTRUCTION, 3650 18th, San Francisco, CA 94110-1932; ANTHONY W. H. WONG, 2425 16th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94116-2526. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 11, 1989. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed ANTHONY WONG. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 10, 1995.

Nov. 16, 23, 30, 1995 Dec 7, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 200082

The following person(s) are doing business as 1) INVESTMENT PUBLISHING HOUSE 2) INVESTMENT MARKETING GROUP, 870 MARKET STREET, #975, San Francisco, CA 94102; STEVEN A. MACDONALD, 211 Liberty Street, #6, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed STEVEN A. MACDONALD. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 09, 1995.

Nov. 16, 23, 30, 1995, Dec 7, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 199642

The following person(s) are doing business as RAINBOW SIGNS, 1337 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94103; HOCHANG AHN, 1334 Mission Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of October 24, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed HOCHANG AHN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 24, 1995.

Nov. 9, 16, 23, 30, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 199987

The following person(s) are doing business as 1) @ DESIGN, 2) SWELL DESIGN, 979 Dolores Street, San Francisco, CA 94110; ALAN EYZAGUIRRE, 979 Dolores Street, San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed ALAN EYZAGUIRRE. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 02, 1995.

Nov. 9, 16, 23, 30, 1995.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 973809

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of SHARON LEE PONDER for change of name. The application of SHARON LEE PONDER for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that SHARON LEE PONDER has filed an application proposing that HER name be changed to SHARON LEE GRUSKIN-PONDER. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all person interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 19th of December, 1995, at 9:00 o'clock am, said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of the Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this day of Nov. 7, 1995.

Nov. 16, 23, 30, 1995 Dec 7, 1995

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

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Nov. 2, 9, 16, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 199432

The following person(s) are doing business as LEGACY CLINICAL RESEARCH, 236 W. Portal Ave. #529, San Francisco, CA 94127; LEGACY CLINICAL RESEARCH, A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, 236 W. Portal Ave. #529, San Francisco, CA 94127. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed SHARON O'LEARY. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 27, 1995.

Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 199872

The following person(s) are doing business as M-5, 1598 Custer Street, San Francisco, CA 94124; VAMES HYNEMAN, 59 Newburg Street, San Francisco, CA 94131; JOHN H. SEARLES, 13413 Skyline Blvd, Woodside Street, CA 94062 and MITCHEL JOHN ROMANAUUSKI, 112 Coleridge Street, San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of October 31, 1995. This business is conducted by a co-partnership. Signed MITCHEL ROMANAUUSKI. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 01, 1995.

Nov. 9, 16, 23, 30, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 20078

The following person(s) are doing business as B & D SERVICE UNLIMITED, 1068 Howard St., San Francisco, CA 94107; MARK A. DOBIE, 1000 River St. San Francisco, CA 94608. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of November 09, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed MARK A. DOBIE. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 09, 1995.

Nov. 16, 23, 30, 1995, Dec 7, 1995.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 973810

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of ELISABETH PAIGE GRUSKIN for change of name. The application of ELISABETH PAIGE GRUSKIN for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that ELISABETH PAIGE GRUSKIN has filed an application proposing that HER name be changed to ELISABETH PAIGE GRUSKIN-PONDER. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all person interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 19th of December, 1995, at 9:00 o'clock am, said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of the Order be published in the BAY AREA REPORTER, a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this day of Nov. 7, 1995.

Nov. 16, 23, 30, 1995 Dec 7, 1995

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 198779

The following person(s) are doing business as RESTORE IT, 381 Ivy #4, San Francisco, CA 94102; WAYNE THOMAS KILLINGER, 381 Ivy #4, San Francisco, CA 94102. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of September 18, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed WAYNE KILLINGER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on September 18, 1995.

Oct. 26, 1995, Nov. 2, 9, 16, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 199519

The following person(s) are doing business as MEN OVER FORTY, 168 Precita Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94110; DAVID SILVEN, 168 Precita Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed DAVID SILVEN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on OCT. 18, 1995.

Oct. 26, 1995, Nov. 2, 9, 16, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 199670

The following person(s) are doing business as MARSHALL MARSHALL, 3505 23rd Street, San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed JAMES MARSHALL. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 24, 1995.

Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23, 1995.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 199145

The following person(s) are doing business as SAN FRANCISCO V-TWIN, 135 Tenth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103; DON ENGLISH, 135 Tenth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct. 2, 1995. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed DON ENGLISH. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 03, 1995.

Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23, 1995.

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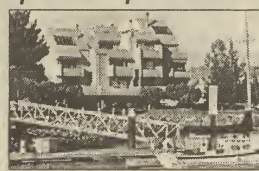
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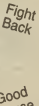


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Urvashi Vaid

Former NGLTF Director Says Visibility Ain't Enough

Drawing the Bottom Line

by LeAnne Foster

A grassroots organizer and former director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), Urvashi Vaid has been a public and vocal member of the lesbian-gay civil rights movement for more than a decade. After moving to Provincetown three years ago to be with comedienne Kate Clinton, her lover of nearly eight years, Vaid temporarily left the public eye. Her reemergence as activist and author came with the release of her first book, *Virtual Equality*. A self-described progressive, Vaid explores the gay and lesbian civil rights movement from the inside out, paying careful attention to both the past and the possible future. Vaid is now finishing her nationwide book tour. Recently she was in San Francisco for the annual Bay Area Book Festival. B.A.R. had a chance to chat with Vaid about *Virtual Equality*, politics, her life and the future.

LeAnne Foster: Your book is titled *Virtual Equality*, a play on the cyber universe we now call home. What is this metaphorical and somewhat enigmatic title about?

Urvashi Vaid: It describes the types of victories we have won so far. I see them as virtual because they are partial and incomplete, and

Continued on page 40

Roxie Offers Rare Marie Dressler Tribute

No Ordinary Movie Star

by Matthew Kennedy

Marie Dressler, left, and Myrna Loy in *Emma*.

Marie Dressler remains the most spectacular exception to the rules of Hollywood stardom. In the early 1930s, she was the nation's undisputed box-office champion, besting Greta Garbo, Jean Harlow, Will Rogers, Norma Shearer, Clark Gable and Joan Crawford. That achievement is remarkable enough, but she was past 60, overweight and had a wildly expressive face full of lines, haunted memories and hard lessons. Her life and career hold irony upon irony. In our era of *de rigueur* cosmetic surgery and a frank terror of aging, no actress has found such success while appearing to abandon all vanity.

The Roxie is screening two Dressler hits, *Emma* (1932) and *Tugboat Annie* (1933), November 22 and 23. This is a rare opportunity — neither movie is available on video nor commonly reissued for television. Both

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Sister George and Echobelly

Bashing the British Rock Boys' Club

by Adrian Roberts

The origins of that nebulous term "queercore" can almost certainly be traced to trend-happy music hacks across the Atlantic. Notorious for "discovering" up-and-coming scenes and attaching labels to them, the British music press was all over "queercore" about two years ago, especially after they played out the whole "riot grrrl" thing. Trend pieces were written, queer poseur bands such as Huggy Bear were profiled, and a scene was inadvertently created out of, well, practically nothing. For in fact, there was really only one definitive queercore band at the time in Britain: Sister George.

I heard about Sister George long before I ever heard their music, and by that time, they had already broken up. Their one and only album, *Drag King*, was released here just a few months ago by Matt Wobensmith's local queer record label, Outpunk. I was surprised he was putting out a record by a defunct band, but after listening to this volatile record, I understood why.

Unlike some punk bands that just do the same song over and over again, this half-dyke, half-fag band covers a lot more ground stylistically. You've got the dark rock of "Janey's Bloc," the bluesy grind

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Ellyott Dragon of Sister George

Photo: Karl Grant

MILESTONES

Writer/activist Essex Hemphill remembered

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FILM

Robert Julian on Craig Lucas' 'Reckless'

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INTERVIEW

The latest from Diane DiMassa's Hothead Paisan

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SAN FRANCISCO



Lawrence Helman, Carol Lynley, and Hostess Huestis at Friday's *Poseidon Adventure* tribute at the Castro.

by Daniel Mangin, with the able assistance of Pithy Galore and Justin Zane

So we says to ourselves, "How can we here in the B.A.R.'s rear end get the community as pissed off as our brethren in the front section did by endorsing Frank "Take It All Off - No, Please Put It Back On" Jordan? Our pea brains are working overtime, but the ideas just aren't coming until Pithy remembers last year's great arts-section fiasco: The Out There 50 list of SF's queer movers and shakers, compiled by the late Aiva Nidnacs (we hope she's resting in peace; we miss her still).

We had to admit Pithy Pooh had a point: The phone didn't stop ringing for a month with complaints by and on behalf of those who'd been omitted or ranked too low. And about honorees the callers felt shouldn't have been on the list at all. (This last category included several of Aiva's former boyfriends and current heartthrobs, plus a few folks to whom she must have owed a favor.)

In fact, just last week a local queenola, a promoter type who prefers a more specialized type of shower than does Jordan, sent us a xerox of the '94 list (people actually *saved* it?) with a whining post-it that queried, "Am I going to make it this year?" (Answer: No.)

Even Aiva admitted there were a few mistakes, like the DJ who'd been dead several months and No. 33, the "spunkiest independent lesbian voice" who'd actually been dating a guy for some time.

So, in the interest of taking the heat off the news division and livening up the holiday season for one and all, we announce the Second Annual Aiva Nidnacs Memorial Out There 50.

Aiva took it upon herself to research the qualifications of each and every member of her top 50 (some of them up real close). But we're way too lazy for that. Here's the one change for 1995: You the readers get to choose the 50 lucky fag-dykes. A sampling from last year - and surely we can do better this time - includes No. 1 Carole Migden; No. 25 Marcus Hu (don't bet on repeating, sweetie); No. 30 Marga Gomez; and Nos. 39 & 40, that fun couple for the ages, Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon.

We here at Out There promise to abide by vote - unless we really hate the person, in which case, in true Mayor Daley fashion (the dead one, who can't sue) we'll manipulate the tally so that the offending party will just happen to come in No. 51. We're looking for, as Aiva so suavely put it, "the characters who create the shape of the city's queer culture, frequently

from behind the scenes."

Vote early and often, either by phone (929-7454) or by mailing in the handy "Pick 5" ballots that'll run in the next few B.A.R. issues. Write down the person's name and a one-sentence explanation of why they deserve to be on the list. Please don't fax because last year's No. 20, who pens our sumptuous paychecks, told us he'll charge us for the fax paper if you do. (And he will.)

The last day to vote is Dec. 12, the same day we'll all dutifully trot down and vote for Mr. Shower Power or Mr. I'm Having Another PAC Attack. The results will be announced in our Dec. 28 column. And remember, as Aiva advised last year, "If you don't end up on the list, and think you should be, you must be getting your hair done at the wrong place."

One local personality who must have been patronizing the wrong salon was Roberta Achtenberg. From the look of things we say she still is, but the knowledgeable Supervisor Tom Ammiano explained her stylistic strategy: "It's called an artichoke cut, the ultimate in wash and wear. Perfect for a politician." Whatever. With her high-profile '95 we're guessing she'll be one of the 50 no matter what vegetable her hair resembles.

Also getting sheared under the wrong shingle was Hostess Huestis, who's sure to vault onto the list this year - and not only because she has speed redial. Those Castro extravaganzas the Marquessa has been putting together with coproducer Lawrence Helman have been winning her fans citywide.

Their Nov. 10 *Poseidon Adventure* tribute was definitely an only-in-SF event. Name any place else on the planet where 1,500 screaming queens would show up for a scratchy 16mm print of a 23-year-old disaster epic, even with the added bonus of an appearance by Carol Lynley? Homo Town hadn't had this camp of a romp since Connie Francis popped into the Eagle.

"She looks good," opined a passerby as Lynley got out of her limo. "I heard that," snapped the star, who then smiled. "Thank you." It was double-entendre city during her Q&A with *Chronicle* critic Edward Guthmann. Mr. G asked her how she felt when she saw *The Poseidon Adventure* the first time. "I felt wet all over again." Howls from the crowd. Lynley: "This is a dangerous room to work."

The crowd was revved and, as the semi-impertinent Guthmann pointed out, had come for the dish. "Let's get real here. Shelley Winters: A great lady or a total pig on the film?" Shelley was a dear, of course.

But who sang "The Morning After," you ask? Lynley had begged off ("I hate that song"), and though he was in attendance (there being no Heather Locklear tribute Friday night), so had *Examiner* arbiter of good taste David Bonetti. But Huestis and Helman pulled off, if not a coup, something perfectly cuckoo: Having "The Street Lady" - the gal with the accordion and winged hat with blinking red light who works the Castro - warble the tune. When you closed your eyes it was almost like Joni Mitchell had boarded the S.S. *Poseidon*, too. (Well, you also had to plug your ears and drop some acid, but there was a spare elegance to the performance.)

It was a busy night. Willie Brown stopped by to make a play for the gay vote, and earlier 13 of the Sick and Twisted Players plus a blow-up doll, all decked out for New Year's Eve (including the blow-up doll), regaled the crowd with choice lines from P.A.

With all the hoopla the actual film was a bit of a letdown - it's baaaaaadd. But it did have its moments, and Shelley brought the house down when she dived into a water-filled chamber to save Gene Hackman. Stella Stevens's eight-inch platforms were a big hit, too.

Before we sign off, one last tidbit. Zimbabwean member of parliament Norbert Makoni put on his thinking cap and came up with this plan for eliminating homosexual behavior: "Whipping used to be the answer. ... Let's whip them." Well, Norbert, it may have worked in the old days, but times have changed. After a lengthy study conducted on Folsom Street in the '70s, researchers concluded it only encourages them. ▼

2nd Annual Aiva Nidnacs Memorial Out There 50

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FILM

Farrow, Lucas and Rene Self-Destruct Mama Mia!

by Robert Julian

I am told that, in the theatre, Craig Lucas' black comedy, *Reckless*, worked well. Unfortunately, the Lucas screenplay for *Reckless*, turned over to director Norman Rene, results in one of the most deadly cinematic experiences of this, or any, Christmas season. The film's excellent cast cannot overcome leaden pacing and a nonsensical structure that will put most filmgoers to sleep. Anyone who experienced the last Lucas/Rene collaboration, *Prelude to a Kiss*, will immediately know what I'm talking about.

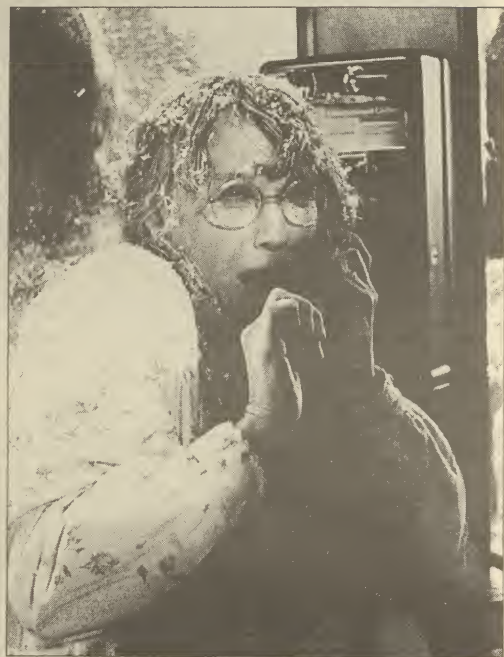
Reckless opens on the night before Christmas with Rachel (Mia Farrow) and her husband (Tony Goldwyn) propped up in bed. With her two sons asleep in their rooms, Rachel quickly establishes herself as a nattering chatterbox. As a result, it's not surprising when her husband bursts into tears and confesses that the "burglar" entering downstairs is actually a hit man he hired to eliminate Rachel. Fleeing through a second-story window, Rachel begins an odyssey that spans the continent.

For over a decade, Rachel passes from one temporary home to the next on a journey of self-discovery. In order to emerge from her chosen state (denial), Rachel must pass many tests. She first finds a sympathetic social worker (Scott Glenn) who allows her to live with him and his paraplegic, deaf-mute wife (Mary-Louise Parker). But both the social worker's wife and Rachel's husband end up poisoned by a homicidal bookkeeper (Deborah Rush) who works for the same non-profit humanitarian agency as Rachel.

Moving from psychotherapy to a six-year stint in a homeless shelter, Rachel's life unfolds as a nightmare. Is it all a dream? Will she find peace? Why do Christmas and death always seem to go hand-in-hand? Why is there so much dishonesty in the world? And what does all this mean? These are the questions most viewers will ask of *Reckless*. Only the certifiably insane will come up with firm answers.

Hartfelt performance

Mia Farrow, as Rachel, strikes all the right poses and gives the correct line readings in a very "Mary Hartman" performance. Farrow manages to replicate Louise Lasser's actress-as-sleep-walker affect with uncanny accuracy, and surprisingly, her rendering of Rachel is strangely appropriate (or appropriately strange). Everyone else in the cast goes over-the-top with mixed results. Scenery-chewing honors go to Eileen Brennan as a nun, and former bus driver, who tries to break through Rachel's shell. Brennan has some great moments as she



Mia Farrow in *Reckless*

tries to verbally batter Rachel back to sanity. But director Rene and screenwriter Lucas torpedoed everyone's best efforts.

At the core of *Reckless*, there is a little film about man's inhumanity to man and the extraordinary challenges of ordinary life. As with *Prelude to a Kiss*, the author's story is designed to work as a metaphor, but in this instance Lucas employs the modus operandi of black comedy to deliver his message. His ultimate failure derives from the heavy-handed approach of director Rene and Lucas' own inability to construct a coherent storyline for the audience. Both director and author are unable to recreate the crucially important "little moments" of the

theatre in a medium that is larger than life.

Reckless is an ambitious project, but Rene and Lucas do not possess the talent for cinematic metaphor requisite for their task. That would require the brilliance of a Krzysztof Kieslowski, whose *Blue*, *White* and *Red* trilogy set the standard by which all others must be measured. As the closing credits roll for *Reckless*, audience members - neither amused nor enlightened - will probably be pondering a monosyllabic interrogatory somewhere along the lines of, "Huh?" ▼

Reckless opens Friday, November 17, at the Opera Plaza.

Famed Mezzo to Sing for Stop AIDS Project Gala

The Stop AIDS Project of San Francisco has announced that international opera star Lorraine Hunt will sing in a special concert titled "A Mixed Bouquet - An Evening of Songs, Supper and Support" scheduled for Sunday, November 19. The organization's second annual gala concert will be held at Green's Restaurant, Fort Mason, Building A. The evening will begin at 5 p.m. with a champagne reception followed by a four-course gourmet vegetarian dinner followed by the concert.

Miss Hunt, who will be accompanied by pianist Jake Heggie and cellist Emil Miland, will perform works by Schumann, Brahms, Debussy, Ravel and others. Mezzo-soprano Lorraine Hunt is a native of San Francisco. She is recognized internationally as a recitalist, concert singer and operatic performer with a repertoire that ranges from the Baroque to the contemporary. On the opera stage, she has excelled in works as diverse as Mozart's *La Clemenza di Tito*, Bizet's *Carmen* and Handel's *Xerxes*. She has also sung a large body of concert works with such conductors as Seiji Ozawa, Nicholas McGegan, Myung-Whun Chung and Roger Norrington.

Tickets for the Stop AIDS Gala at Green's Restaurant (\$150 and up) are available by calling 621-7177 ext. 254. ▼



Photo: J. Henry Fair



Marie Dressler and Wallace Beery in *Tugboat Annie*.

Dressler

Continued from cover

spotlight Dressler and reveal her unique ability to squeeze laughter and tears simultaneously. Both made truckloads of money for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. Anyone wanting to witness depression-era humor and sentimentality, classic studio-style moviemaking and the phenomenon that was Dressler should mark their calendars.

Dressler had plenty of hard times in her life, including years as a broken-down vaudevillian and hostess in a New York hotel. Her fame seemed to ebb and flow in her life as it has after her death. She is known today as a great clown, but Dressler's memory has been neglected. She lacks the instant recognition of Charlie Chaplin, Buster Keaton or W.C. Fields. Enormously talented, she was their equal in popularity and belongs in their company.

Emma was written for Dressler and casts her in the titular role of a loyal domestic to a wealthy family. After years of service, Emma marries her employer, who promptly dies. His greedy children, including screen newcomer Myrna Loy, want a share of his estate, and Emma must defend herself against murder charges.

Emma contains a mix of sentiment and slapstick more in service to the star than to story plausibility. "Gruff but lovable" fits this and virtually all other Dressler characterizations. She made an art of telling people off, but could be as sweet as the saintliest grandmother. Emma is foremost a monument to her skill — it is sentimental but not maudlin, funny but not vulgar, dramatic but not turgid. Its effectiveness can be credited to Dressler, as guided by director Clarence Brown. This was Dressler at her peak, and she was nominated for a Best Actress Academy Award. She narrowly lost, perhaps because she picked up the trophy one year earlier for *Min and Bill*.

Tugboat Annie has Dressler as Annie Brennan, the proud skipper of an old tugboat. Annie is all fortitude, but her husband Terry (Wallace Beery) is more often stinko drunk and ineffectual. The plot revolves around familial estrangement and Annie's loyalty to her dipsomaniacal husband. *Tugboat Annie* may reveal late prohibition attitudes toward drinking, but once again it's Dressler's show. She dominates with comedy, pathos and invisible spirit; first run audiences were reduced to weeping at their heroes' misfortunes. Rarely

was she allowed straight-ahead drama, but her scenes with son Robert Young show a fierce combination of maternal heartache and unconditional love.

As for her and Beery, the match was unforgettable. Here were two rowdy, homely types, anti-glamour personified, and audiences went wild. Many dubbed this one of the all-time great screen teams, an opinion that lives on to the present. As *Variety* summarized: "They fit so snugly." The Dressler-Beery association is strong, but *Min and Bill* and *Tugboat Annie* were their only screen partnerships. They both appeared in *Dinner at Eight*, the enduring 1933 comedy of social class, but with no more than a few moments of mutual screen time.

Dressler was foremost a brilliant comedienne with flawless delivery and timing. The famous final scene of *Dinner at Eight*, as she double-takes and delivers a withering remark to Jean Harlow, is one of the sterling moments of American screen comedy. A notorious scene stealer, she could mug shamelessly for attention. The results were often inspired and hysterical, as when she made her sound debut in *The Hollywood Revue of 1929*. Impersonating a bejeweled queen, she fell from her dignified station with shoulder rolls and hand clapping whenever the orchestra played a cha-cha-cha rhythm.

Pillar of decaying pride

Was Dressler some strange aberration? What can account for this entertainer who broke the mold? Her career says a great deal about money, sex and comedy in American history. Born in a small town in Ontario in 1869, she made a fortune as a premiere attraction on American and European stages from the 1890s to World War I. Her silent film career began auspiciously with *Tillie's Punctured Romance* in 1914. The Mack Sennett Keystone production co-starred Charlie Chaplin and made history as the first feature-length comedy.

Responding to years of exploitation, Dressler became a leader of the Broadway actors strike of 1919 and a founder of Actors Equity. She was branded "enemy" by New York producers. Then came a professional hiatus, changing public taste, a phase of hot temperament and bad management and by the early 1920s, Dressler found herself a forgotten fiftysomething comedienne. Friends from her heyday were dying and her relationships with men were grotesquely unhappy. She had no children or family.

While the '20s were roaring, and the flappers flapped away their youth, Dressler was broke, depressed and suicidal.

She managed to gain a toehold in movies in 1927, and with talkies her career zoomed again. She made a huge impression in 1930 as Marthy, the dear old sot alongside Garbo in *Anna Christie*. From there she settled into a \$5000-a-week contract at MGM and never disappointed studio kingpins Irving Thalberg and Louis B. Mayer. The studio often paired her with Polly Moran, another Mack Sennett comic. Their prattfalls and endearing humanity in *Caught Short*, *Reducing*, *Politics* and *Prosperity* set the standard for later middle-aged female comedy a la Lucille Ball and Vivian Vance. Dressler repeatedly delivered the goods with *Min and Bill*, *Emma*, *Tugboat Annie* and *Let Us Be Gay*, the Norma Shearer starrer that recently played the Roxie to enthusiastic crowds. Her overripe grande dame of *Dinner at Eight* is a glorious invention, a pillar of decaying pride.

Not coincidentally, Dressler's career was reborn as the stock market plunged. Her following became religious in its zeal and she received hundreds of fan letters daily. She was the private guest of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt and became one of the most famous women in the world. Her birthday party in 1933 included a 500-pound cake for 700 guests on the MGM lot. Nicknames such as "The Heart of America," "Queen Marie of Hollywood," "The Grandest Troupier of Them All" and "Mother Spirit of the World" reveal Dressler as icon. A nation profoundly uncertain of its future took to the theaters to see this mighty figure overcome all odds and thrive.

That delightfully rubberized mug lasted on film for a few brief years. She was deathly ill during the making of her most famous movies. More films were planned, but cancer, heart and kidney disease killed her in 1934. She died at the height of her popularity. Millions mourned. She was loved as few screen actors have been before or since. A *Photoplay* memorial noted, "it is the greatest of all tributes to Marie Dressler to say that her appeal was universal ... I do not care what your status in life may be, of one thing I am certain: if you ever saw Marie Dressler on the screen she went straight to your heart." ▼

Matthew Kennedy is the author of a forthcoming biography of Marie Dressler.



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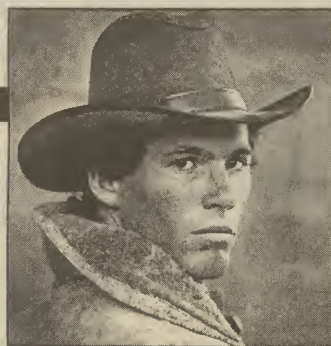
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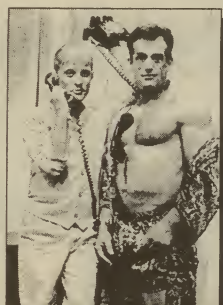
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FILM

Gay Cuba

Havana Medley

by Wendell Ricketts

As harsh as the assessment may seem, it is nevertheless true that superficiality defines most journalistic explorations of gay life outside the United States. We've all seen some version of the ubiquitous "Gays in _____" article (insert the name of any non-Western country) with its obligatory tale of "How I Got Laid in Foreign Military Hero Park." It's the kind of piece magazines like *The Advocate* publish periodically for the titillation of readers whose primary mission in traveling is to cruise a man with an accent.

So when a documentary comes along that takes seriously the history of a country and treats respectfully the lives of its queer inhabitants, attention must be paid. Such is the case with journalist Sonja de Vries' documentary *Gay Cuba*, which opens November 16 for a brief San Francisco run at the Victoria Theater.

De Vries is a longtime Cuba watcher, and *Gay Cuba*, her first film, appeared earlier this year at the Berlin Film Festival, the Hamburg Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, and at the Louisville Arts Watch Film Festival.

Among its other achievements, *Gay Cuba* documents an historic first: the participation in 1995 in the annual *Primer de Mayo* (May Day) parade of two U.S.-based queer contingents, one from New York's Center for Cuban Studies and the other from Bay Area Queers for Cuba (of which group de Vries is a co-founder). The vis-



Plaza de Armas in Old Havana, photographed earlier this year.

itors marched with Cuban gays and lesbians from the newly formed GALEES (Action Group for the Liberation of Sexual Choice and Expression).

It's a portentous moment in the documentary - and in Cuba's history - and, perhaps out of modesty, de Vries gives it just a touch less emphasis than might have been appropriate. Indeed, for U.S. gays and lesbians, information about Cuban gay life has often been limited to Nestor Almendros'

Improper Conduct (a 1984 film that was a signal event in establishing the idea of an international gay and lesbian human-rights movement) and to the late writer Reinaldo Arenas' novels - though both men's work was overwhelmed by ex-patriot bitterness and anti-communism - and to sensationalistic media reports about the "imprisonment" of HIV-positive people in sanitariums, about anti-gay pogroms, and about roundups of gay men and women prior to the 1980 Mariel boat lift, subjects that de Vries' film touches on.

But *Gay Cuba* is a monumental antidote to that heretofore one-sided story. In part, of course, such an antidote is possible - gay Cubans marching in the streets as opposed to being marched through the streets - because significant political changes have taken place in Cuba, and de Vries' film allows lesbian and gay Cubans to speak to their counterparts in the U.S., perhaps for the first time, about the lives they are leading in Cuba. These are not, in other words, men and women so victimized by their government that the only recourse they see is flight.

In fact, one of *Gay Cuba*'s most significant accomplishments is that it allows the discussion of homosexuality in Cuba to be as ordinary as it is: the filmmakers interview a group of soldiers on the streets of Havana; one young man offers the opinion that homosexuality is abnormal, while the woman next to him disagrees, arguing that it's a natural expression of difference. An agricultural worker talks about being an openly gay foreman at his co-op (imagine that in the U.S.); a lesbian radio personality says about her regular evening program, "It's not necessarily a gay show, but I can tell you that most gay people in Havana listen to it."

And so it goes. After seeing a film like *Gay Cuba*, it's perhaps only natural to argue that life for bisexual, gay, and lesbian people is "better" or "worse" elsewhere than it is in the United States. But it's a false dichotomy. The U.S. is no paragon - of either good or evil - in its treatment of queer people. What *Gay Cuba* demonstrates, more importantly, is that the struggle for dignity and self-respect knows no nationality. ▼

Gay Cuba plays November 16-17 at the Victoria Theatre in San Francisco

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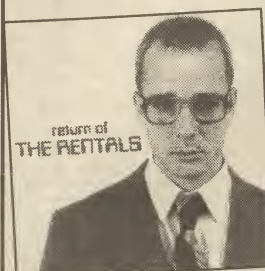
Francis Jue and Mark Capri in *M. Butterfly* (1992)



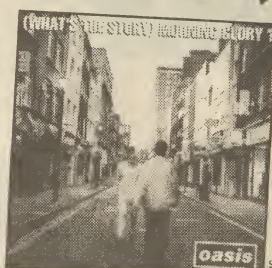
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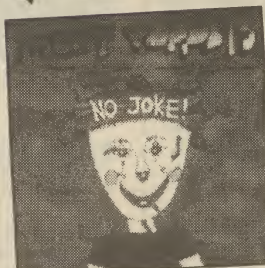
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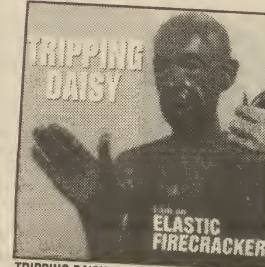
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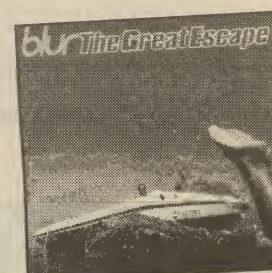
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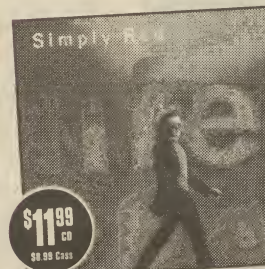
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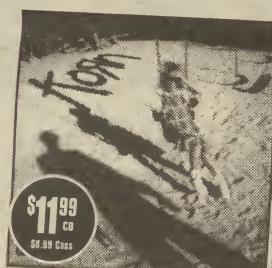
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INTERVIEW



Urvashi Vaid

Urvashi Vaid

Continued from cover

somewhat illusory. We have won queer visibility, and yet public opinion polls show that people don't understand very much about us. We have won political access, but we haven't organized political power. That is why I say that what we live in is a simulation of equality. Genuine equality will be reached when we achieve the society in which homosexuality is considered equal to heterosexuality.

LF: In *Virtual Equality* you discuss the existence as well as the dangers of the "gay ghetto." While you have been saying these things for years, this is perhaps the most detailed expression of your ideas yet.

UV: Yeah, I have a very mixed feeling about the ghetto. The ghetto has been a really good thing that has developed over the past 20 years, and yet I feel very strongly that what we are fighting for is the right to live in the whole world.

LF: So you don't just want people to retreat into the ghetto?

UV: Right. I don't want people to mistake the existence of gay and lesbian spaces for winning. I don't want people to feel complacent. I also point out that there is a way in which the ghetto can reinforce the closet. People are comfortable being out in the confines of gay and lesbian communities, but then they are not out anywhere else.

LF: Some people have criticized your book for airing dirty laundry, referring to your critiques of some movement leaders and organizations.

UV: The book lays out a pretty specific and detailed critique of the organizing we have been doing in the movement. People in organizations that I name are illustrations of the top down, elite-oriented approach to political power. I think for a number of years the gay community needed to establish political access, so the approaches that worked in the late '70s and '80s were valuable. Those strategies, political action committees and \$200-a-plate dinners, organize a certain class of people and leave large numbers of lesbians and gay men uninvolved in the movement. Those shouldn't be the only strategies we use.

I don't expect everyone will agree with me. The book is a contribution to the debate. It comes out of my politics and experience. I want people to be involved with the movement, bottom line. And my call in this book is that none of us can sit around on the sidelines watching this movement go by. It is the apathetic folks and the burned-out folks I worry about much more than the people who disagree. I tried to make the book really accessible and comprehensible to both people who have been involved and those who haven't.

LF: According to an article in *The Advocate*, you left NGLTF to lecture, write and to avoid burning out.

UV: Yeah, I left before I got burnt. I still respect the organizing work that is being done there - they have trained literally thousands of people doing media skills building and Fight the Right training. I have faith in the idea of building the movement from the ground up, and that is what I feel the task force has been doing.

LF: You have frequently cited the need for statewide organizations in every state. What other problems do you see immediately affecting the movement?

UV: Another problem we have are divisions along lines of race and gender. There is tremendous tension along these lines and it hurts us. This leaves me frustrated as someone who believes in a multiracial movement. I have always worked for that. Where I am at right now is a very pragmatic place. I am willing to enter into a coalition with anyone towards a gay and lesbian civil rights agenda, but beyond that coalition for a specific rights law, we may well be in different movements.

LF: What would you like to see happen in the next ten years?

UV: In ten years? I would like to see the Hawaii decision upheld [for same-sex marriages] and the right to marriage be recognized in all states that have lesbian and gay rights laws. I would like to see lesbian and gay families be safe, without barriers to parenting. I would like to see the emergence of a new progressive movement. We need to find each other and come together in a common organization or some other vehicle that gets us in contact with each other. Those are the kinds of things I hope for in the next ten years. I think they're doable.

My fear is that over the next ten years the far right wingers are going to continue to stay in power and fight us on every issue. They are part of the landscape in the foreseeable future, and the question is how much social control will they be able to seize. I am very comfortable with there being a very vigorous debate of different ideas. I am uncomfortable with one religion being imposed on all people, one form of family being imposed on all people, and one type of thinking being imposed on all people, which is what I think the far right represents. ▼

Virtual Equality includes an action component called the Yes Promo Homo Campaign. By sending \$35 to the Lambda Legal Defense fund, you receive an annual membership to six gay and lesbian organizations.

Cabaret Queens On Parade



Following on the heels of singing sensation Eartha Kitt, the folks at the glamorous New Orleans Room at the Fairmont Hotel are proud to present Samantha Samuels (pictured) November 21-25, a singing legend of the international cabaret scene. We haven't seen Samantha in these parts for well over a year, so this is an opportunity to get reacquainted with one of the best crooners in the biz. Samuels' triumphant return to the New Orleans Room will be followed by The Four Freshman (November 28-December 2) and the legendary Barbara Cook (December 12-23), whom *The New York Post* once called "the greatest female theatrical cabaret singer of our time." Ticket prices vary. For information, call The Fairmont Hotel's New Orleans Room at 772-5259. The Fairmont Hotel is located atop Nob Hill at 950 Mason St. ▼

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John Mark Ainsley Sings Monteverdi to *Brigadoon* Gem of a Tenor

by Paul Thomason

Through the years, a number of extraordinary artists have made their American operatic debuts in San Francisco: Renata Tebaldi, Mario Del Monaco, Giulietta Simionato, Elisabeth Schwarzkopf, Birgit Nilsson, Leonie Rysanek, Sena Jurinac, Leontyne Price, and

Roberto Scandiuizzi — the list goes on and on.

Last Tuesday (November 14), British-born tenor John Mark Ainsley joined this roster when he sang Don Ottavio in the SF Opera's new production of Mozart's *Don Giovanni*. Tomorrow night (Friday, November 17) he will sing works by Purcell at a Gala Concert honoring Sir Charles

Mackerras at the War Memorial. "I'm thrilled to be here in San Francisco, a gay capital, a cosmopolitan city with an opera house with an incredible tradition," he said recently over coffee.

Though Ainsley is only 33 ('I'm a July baby'), he has already made 70 CDs. But the remarkable thing about his recordings is not their sheer number or even his consistently beautiful voice, but the artistry and stylistic excellence Ainsley brings to everything from medieval music to Handel to *Brigadoon*.

When he sings Charlie Dalrymple's "Come to Me, Bend to Me" from *Brigadoon* he sounds like his true place is on the Broadway stage. Listening to his performances of songs by Schubert or Warlock he is obviously a born recitalist. His recordings of Orfeo (Monteverdi's *L'Orfeo*) and Aeneas (Purcell's *Dido & Aeneas*) are treasures because he sings in the style of the period, but without ever sounding pedantic or precious. And his recording of Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni*? Elegantly phrased, superbly embellished and ravishingly sung. How does he do it?

"Style is in your head, it absolutely has nothing to do with your voice," Ainsley explained, tapping his head. "Technique is a means of expression, it's like learning to walk. There are different qualities of voice that are suitable for different repertoire.



Photo: Hanna Chela

John Mark Ainsley

You're not going to ask Hildegard Behrens to sing Liu [in Puccini's *Turandot*]. When you're singing, the change in style is something that happens upstairs."

Unlike many singers, Ainsley never confuses the style of singing with communication itself. "I hope until the day I die that I never lose sight of the fact that performing is about communication. There's an incredible reward back [from the audience] when you've really communicated. You feel the audience listening [while holding their breath]. It may only last for a few seconds but you live for those moments.

"And it doesn't only happen in classical music," he continued passionately. "It's the sort of thing you can easily hear in a torch song where what's happening goes straight into the solar plexus, the heart level. It's not digested by the brain. There's no intellectual. 'Oh, that's impressive.' No! It goes straight in, and you can't protect yourself. That's the communication I think is most powerful. You can't always do it," he added with a rueful grin. "But that's what you aim for. It's between human souls and that is unique."

Given Ainsley's refreshing dedication to moving his audience through his art, it comes as no surprise that, again unlike some of his contemporaries, he is a fan of many great singers of the past. "I have a laser disc of an old recording of the Verdi *Requiem* [with Price, Cossotto, Pavarotti, Ghiaurov and Karajan] and it's like a talisman. Whenever I feel I'm at a bit of a loss technically I stick it on and just watch Leontyne. She stands absolutely goddamn still, and yet there's incredible drama, poise, color — and everything — in her singing. It's art concealing art.

"Whereas nowadays, I don't know if it's that we have the concentration span as long as a pop video or a section of a sitcom between commercials, but there seems to be a reaction in some places that it's not dramatic if you're not throwing yourself around. I think that's incredibly sad. Things that would have been shocking indications of vocal inadequacies in Flagstad's time are now [considered] necessary pointers of somebody really giving it all. When a soprano breaks from her chest voice into her upper register, it's like, 'Ah, fabulous!' A dramatic effect? Maybe it is, but it's not healthy."

Likes "real people" roles

While studying music at Oxford Ainsley began singing in various

choirs, eventually joining the medieval ensemble Gothic Voices. "As a consequence of being seen working with them, it wiped out a whole lot of auditions for me," he said. "Then I started to branch out and do later repertoire, but still in concert. I didn't make my operatic debut until 1989 in [Monteverdi's] *The Return of Ulysses* with the English National Opera."

Today the tenor limits himself to two, possibly three, opera productions a year, carefully balancing his schedule between recitals, concerts and recordings because "one pays incredible dividends to the other."

He was delighted to talk about roles and vocal categories, but resistant to pigeonholing his own voice. "The English tenor at its best is a very, very sweet and extremely potent animal. But I don't like the label. I'd rather just be a voice that's maybe associated with [specific] roles."

"The roles that turn me on are the operatic roles that are truly fleshed out, that are real people," Ainsley said, adding that Lensky in *Eugene Onegin*, Faust ("in my dreams, one day, who knows?"), Werther, the Paris version of Gluck's *Orfeo*, and "all of Mozart" excite him.

Given his grueling schedule of learning roles, recording and performing, relaxing is not something for which there is much time in the tenor's agenda, but he does indulge occasionally. "I just do regular gay guy stuff, really. Go to a movie, look at paintings. Go out and meet people." Unfortunately it has been his experience that when people find out he is an opera singer human communication often stops. "People who don't know anything about opera have a preconception, like if you say 'homosexual' to a lot of people who think they don't know anybody gay, they automatically either picture a leather queen or someone in chiffon and never a regular guy. 'Opera singer' is the same thing. People say, 'You don't look like an opera singer. You're not fat, you're not grand and wearing jewels.' It always gets in the way."

Perhaps John Mark Ainsley does not wear jewels onstage, but he certainly is one of the brightest gems in music today. And with any luck San Francisco audiences will enjoy him for years to come. ▼

John Mark Ainsley appears in *Don Giovanni* at the War Memorial Opera House through November 28. For tickets (\$21-\$125) and further information call (415) 864-3330.

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Melancholy Baby

Get Lost, The Magnetic Fields
(Merge)

by Jeffery Kennedy

Homocore, despite how it portrays itself, breaks very few rules. There is nothing new about boys thrashing guitars, flexing their muscles and grabbing their crotches, which may be why homocore bands get so much media attention. Meanwhile, truly original characters such as gay singer/songwriter/musician Stephin Merritt, the mastermind behind the Magnetic Fields, wallow in relative obscurity.

Merritt uses computer technology to twist traditional song elements into sensual soundscapes. In interviews, Merritt most often

cites oldies J.S. Bach and ABBA as influences and points out the deceptive simplicity of their compositions. Intricate melodies hold Merritt's verse-chorus-verse songs together. But odd chord changes tweak the listener, and each track on *Get Lost*, the Magnetic Fields' fifth album, is distorted and heavily layered with digital (drum machines, synthesizers, samples) and analog (guitars, strings) instruments.

Merritt's lyrics intensify this claustrophobic effect. Many of the songs here are about escape. Fame is liberation for a suburbanite in "Famous." In "Smoke and Mirrors," Merritt uses a rolling rhythm similar to Gary Numan's New Wave hit "Cars" to express isolation, confessing that "I don't know the stations' names/I'll spend my life on this train." The track this lonely train rides is time, which serves as an instrument of death ("The Desperate Things You Made Me Do") and the key to truth ("When You're Old and Lonely"). And as time steers Merritt through his moonlit landscape, he continuously waves good-bye to what is, what was and what could be.

For Merritt, the only respite

from this destiny is romance. Romance, although fleeting and intensely private, stops the clock. In "Don't Look Away," a quick cruise takes on monumental proportions. "The moments in your gaze," Merritt softly sings, "have been turning to days in my heart." The freedom of summer is just out of reach in the jangly "Love is Lighter Than Air," where Merritt calls time "sin and illness," compares it to an "unforgivable mime" and then concludes that "Our one last chance is to climb into blimps of romance." Summer, however, is endless in Southern California, and in "You and Me and the Moon" Merritt transcends both place and time by describing a schoolgirl crush on a '60s surfer boy wearing a Pendleton shirt.

These themes—time, romance, fate—touch upon what it means to be alive. Combined with Merritt's innovative musicianship, they push the songs on *Get Lost* above the stale realm of homocore into an emotionally rich, diverse and humane territory beyond gender. ▼

Stephin Merritt performs solo at Bimbo's 365 Club, 1025 Columbus, on Friday, November 17.

British Rock

Continued from cover

of "Rococo Subversive" and a good old-fashioned sardonic cover song in the guise of Tom Robinson's "Glad To Be Gay." While musically it's still attitudinal punk, what makes these songs queercore are the lyrics.

Ellyott Dragon, the band's self-described "loudmouth oversized-ego brat" adapts her singing style based on the song. On "Virus Envy," she affects a snarling bite, which complements the song's cautionary message about dykes getting HIV. "Handle Bar" is about drag kings, while "Let's Breed" finds her and guitarist Lindon sweetly singing an ironic duet about, well, breeding.

Blowing through eight tracks in less than half an hour, Sister George definitely leaves you hungry for more. However, Ellyott left last year, and the rest of the band carried on as Kidnapper.

Dragon's fate

Last week, I finally found out what had become of Sister George's obnoxious lead singer. While the London band Echobelly was in town, I spoke with dyke guitarist Debbie Smith, who caught me up on the current state of queercore in Britain. With her, she had a demo tape from Night Nurse, Ellyott's new band, which may be opening for Echobelly when they return for another U.S. tour in February.

Speaking of Echobelly, their show at Bimbo's last week was certainly a treat for all the Anglophiles in the audience. The latest trend the British music press has been hawking is something called "Brit-pop," of which Echobelly is a part, along with bands such as Blur, Oasis, Menswear, and Elastica. Basically, Brit-pop is nothing more than a vague tag for sharp, smart, guitar-oriented pop music sung with British accents. In the case of Echobelly, throw in some feminist lyrics and a few shades of Blondie, and you've got the makings of a fabulous second album, the recently released *On*.

Their debut album, last year's *Everyone's Got One*, was a bristling display of catchy songwriting, intelligent lyrics and a ton of style. *On* contains more of the same, only better. India-born lead singer Sonya Aurora Madan has a bright, ringing voice that can be heard clearly over Glen Johansson's and Debbie Smith's edgy guitars. The crystal-like clarity of Sonya's voice is probably the band's greatest asset, not to mention her powerful lyrics, which are laden with feminist insight and positive messages.

Many Echobelly songs extol



Echobelly: Sonya Aurora Madan, Glen Johansson, Debbie Smith, and Andy Henderson

the virtues of creating change in the world, but not in a way that's heavy-handed or trite. "I wanna do great things, I don't wanna compromise," Sonya sings on the upbeat "Great Things." Or on the swaying, lush "Something Hot in a Cold Country," she intones, "Feed the fire, fan the flame 'til the world remembers your name."

Most interesting, however, is "Pantyhose and Roses," a paean to

Stephen Milligan, the British Parliament member who was found dead while engaged in a perverse, autoerotic act.

With all that going for them, not to mention their multi-culti good looks, what's not to like? Besides, let's face it, it's really hard to hate a band whose guitar player has a sticker on her guitar that reads: "I Slow Down for Pussies." ▼

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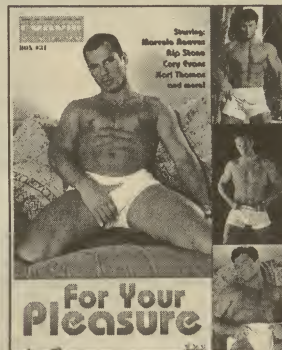
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INTERVIEW

Diane DiMassa's Homicidal Hothead Is Back in New Compilation

Return of the Terminator

by LeAnn Foster

San Francisco artist and writer Diane DiMassa exhales her life onto the pages on her drawing table. The result, borne out in remarkable drawings and a sick sense of reality, is Hothead Paisan, a character full of unbridled rage, creativity and love, articulated in pictures and words. To call it a comic strip seems a misnomer, for Hothead Paisan is nothing if not Diane's own id, functioning with childlike innocence and rage. The expression of this id has resulted in a unique comiczine with an enormous following.

Over the past 19 issues, Hothead has found many crazed compadres, as she strolls through the pages with punked-out bad hair, armed to the tits, prepared to take on any form of societal toxic waste, be they rapists or bigots. She counts among her friends Roz, a blind Zen-like character who wears Birkenstocks; Daphne, her giggling girlfriend; and Chicken, her faithful cat companion.

The 'zine began after Stacy Sheehan, now Giant Ass publisher, saw drawings in Diane's diary. "When I found what was to become the first four pages of Hothead Paisan issue #1," says Sheehan, "my mouth dropped open. I was stunned and my mind was literally blown away. It took me a few minutes to put my head back together. The first thought I had was that this was amazing, original material and had to be put out!"

Now, four times annually, Diane DiMassa leaves her diary "on the steps of city hall" in the form of Hothead Paisan, the Homicidal Lesbian Terrorist. After five years, DiMassa is now releasing her second compilation book, *The Revenge of Hothead Paisan*. DiMassa's first book, *Hothead Paisan: Homicidal Lesbian Terrorist*, published by Cleis Press, holds the first nine issues of the 'zine. *Revenge*, which is also published by Cleis Press, contains issues #10-18 and features a 30-page flashback courtesy of friendly feline Chicken and Miss Woo.

These 30 new pages were a struggle for DiMassa, forcing her to spend the winter chained to her drawing board six to 12 hours per day. "It was a long winter," DiMassa says in an interview from

her home in San Francisco. "I just thought it was never going to end. When I am on a really heavy deadline, I have to schedule in eating, because if I don't then I go a long time without eating and then my blood sugar drops and I become a homicidal lesbian terrorist."

A kinder, gentler Hothead?

Both DiMassa and Sheehan are pleased with issue #19, due in part to its divergence from Hothead's norm. In it, especially in story lines like *A Poke in the Park*, a less violent Hothead emerges. "What was most significant to me about issue #19 was that I have always kept rage the main focus," says DiMassa. "And I really strayed off of that issue. The whole idea of getting her involved with anyone is strange. I guess that in itself is a big change. I spent more time on them just being googly with each other, making out in the park and then going home and having this hot, sweaty night."

A subject of great speculation is Daphne's gender. While hints have been dropped that Daphne may be transgender, DiMassa doesn't consider this an established fact. "Daphne has many facets that are yet to be revealed. I had hinted something about hormones, something about a big transition, and stuff like that, but I had never quite come out and said exactly what was going on because, again, I didn't start out with this plan. And knowing me, it will probably end up being something very silly. Maybe I'll introduce a transgender character later. I don't want to write big fiction. I might end up pulling that kind of thing off Daphne, because Hothead is so autobiographical."

Due to the autobiographical nature of Hothead, and DiMassa's desire to reflect issues of society, two of the three issues released thus far in 1995 have dealt specifically with exorcising personal demons. Hence, Hothead struggles with suicide, drinking, and reaching out for hope. After the release of issues 17 and 18, the news



of the suicide of a lesbian from Austin, Texas reached DiMassa, resulting in the dedication of issue 19 to the young woman, Lisa Davis. The closing line of the introduction reads: "A moment of silence and love, please, for those who decided not to make the turn [around the next corner of life]."

"It just crushes me when I hear about someone who decided not to anymore. I don't know what was going on with her, but it just drives home the point that when you are the kind of person who doesn't have a lot of defenses, life is just too hard to get through."

"You have cycles of strength, pulling yourself up, at least I do, where you get to the point where you're just out of gas" says DiMassa. "But the thing is, if you don't come out and say it and talk about it, then it's a hundred times bigger inside. It doesn't mean you're weak. It doesn't mean you're fucked up. I think it's a real normal response to the world we live in."

In addition to the recent attention given to suicide in Hothead Paisan, DiMassa has also explored rape and incest. While these issues are not autobiographical, they indicate a desire and drive in DiMassa to put out relevant, powerful material. "I think Diane's work is brilliant for many reasons, not the least of which is that it's cathartic for so many people," says Deborah Barkins of Cleis Press. "Diane is one of the calmest writers I know, so calm because Hothead isn't. I think everyone needs their own Hothead."

DiMassa feels that this is her work's paramount purpose. "Seeing women heal is like the best thing in the world, and it shocks and saddens me that most of these women have never felt a unity or have never known that other women are feeling the same thing." With her own past providing the inspiration, DiMassa's work transcends gender, orientation, and life experience. Hothead Paisan is the first and last bastion of lesbian terrorism. With Chicken purring beside her, she journeys through the pages into the hearts and minds of readers. ▼

Revenge of Hothead Paisan and *Hothead Paisan* are available at A Different Light Bookstore and elsewhere. Copies can be ordered directly from Cleis Press by calling (415) 937-1555.

A Salute to the Sleazemeisters

The Sleaze Merchants: Adventures in Exploitation Filmmaking
Edited by John McCarty, St. Martin's Griffin, \$16.95

by Daniel Mangin

Politicians from Bob Dole to Bill Clinton have tried to put the film industry on the defensive, but when they attack a film like *Natural Born Killers* as "exploiting" the American masses they only prove how little they know about the subject. *NBK* has nothing on the ghastly, gory, salacious pictures surveyed in the highly amusing *The Sleaze Merchants*.

McCarty divides his tome into three sections, which pay homage to the Grand Masters, the Honorable Practitioners and the Young Turks. Familiar "talents" like Ed

Wood Jr. and John Waters are profiled, along with lesser-known folks like William Lustig (his *Manic Cop*, a worldwide hit, successfully mixed horror- and action-film conventions), Spain's Jess Franco (dubbed "the most prolific sleaze merchant of all time") and Al Adamson (who toiled in every genre from T&A to thrillers to blaxploitation).

What all the filmmakers share is a passion for life's seamier side and the ability to stretch a dollar from here to Hawaii. Ted Mikels, who claims his 1974 film *The Doll Squad* inspired TV's *Charley's Angels*, tells how he eked out a career: "I managed a film or two a year using short ends - 20 to 50 feet - of raw stock that I bought from the major studios for a penny a foot. Some of those short ends were so short that you had to re-

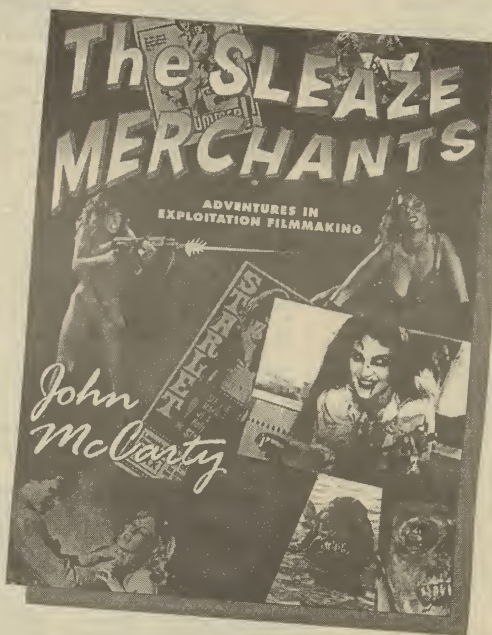
load the camera after every take. ... They talk about as low budgets as \$7,000 - if I'd had \$7,000 for some of my films I could have made a spectacular!"

Spectacular is not the description most would apply to the flicks McCarty and his contributors describe - many played first (and only) in drive-ins or rundown theatres or went straight to video. But to aficionados, a film like Andy Milligan's *The Ghastly Ones* ("greedy relatives gather on a remote estate to claim an inheritance at any price") or Fred Olen Ray's *Hollywood Chainsaw Hookers* (need we describe?) is a "classic."

Equally classic are some of the films' publicity angles. David F. Friedman described his "soft-X" [as in X-rated] *The Lustful Turk* as "a picture in the tradition of *Lawrence of Arabia* ... but with girls." The movies' credits showed a sense of humor - and perspective - too: *Moonshine Mountain*'s titles say it was "Directed by Herschell Gordon Lewis, who ought to know better, but don't."

But what are exploitation films? Lewis, truly one of the field's Grand Masters, defines them as works "in which the elements of plot and acting become subordinate to the elements that can be promoted."

This thesis leads Lewis to an interesting observation: "I would regard *Jurassic Park* as the ultimate exploitation film ... [T]he acting level is junior high school. People read their lines as though they're seeing them on a TelePrompTer for the first time. ... A film like *Cyrano de Bergerac* with José Ferrer - now that's a



leaves her readers in the dust. A fascinating subplot concerning obsessive love provides comic relief of a somewhat uneasy kind. The characters are richly detailed, the dialogue sharp and often witty. *Faint Praise* deserves enthusiastic acclaim; it is a mystery that keeps its secrets through to its astonishing, yet entirely credible ending. ▼

Monkey-shines

The Monkey's Mask by Dorothy Porter, Arcade, \$19.95

by Deborah Peifer

"Imagine"
If I were paid
by the column inch
how tempting it might be
to lay
a sentence
out
like
this.

Of course, only a deeply cynical person would suspect that crass commercialism was behind Dorothy Porter's decision to turn enough words for a short story into a 261-page novel by laying them out as pseudo-verse. I am not a deeply cynical person, but consider, if you will, page 39, "Driving to her place":

blue dusk
my car glides
like a hovercraft
the wheel plays
sweet
in my hands

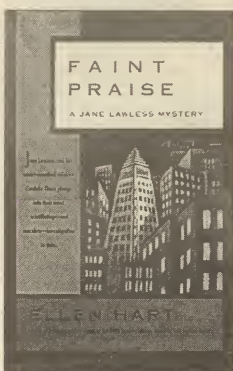
this time
will we just talk?
Does that seem like a full page to you? Or might my aforementioned cynicism be, in fact, appropriate?

The Monkey's Mask is billed as "an erotic murder mystery," but is "Wer" particularly erotic? You decide:

Here
I feel it here
flutter

groan grind in the

belly
what jellies my legs?
what flash-floods my cunt?
As for its mystery, there is none when the guilty parties are easily guessed long before the above-quoted page 39. The result is, at the very best, a big waste of \$19.95. And the only plus I can come up with is this: you'll be able to finish reading the 261 pages in a remarkably short time. ▼



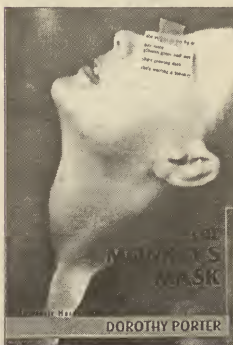
Flawless Lawless

Faint Praise by Ellen Hart; Seal, \$20.95

by Deborah Peifer

You should set aside some time for real reading pleasure - a new Jane Lawless novel has arrived. In her latest mystery, *Faint Praise*, Jane is asked by her old friend, Roz, to investigate some very creepy goings-on in her apartment building. Someone has been breaking into Roz's apartment, searching through her things, reading her journal, but taking nothing. What starts as an odd little investigation takes a dark turn when one of the other tenants is beaten up. A seemingly unrelated suicide may be the key to the case, or one horrendous red herring.

Ellen Hart is a solid writer who knows how to create suspenseful situations with the merest turn of a phrase. Her amateur sleuth is smart enough to be believable as a detective, but not so clever that she



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PERSONALS

No String To Tie Me Down
(out of bed that till 20yrs white very/bottom, 5'11", br/bf, 30" waist, seeks smooth wavy/tops under 30 for regular fun. Wild and adventurous. Day times e +. 7215.

Cock Sucker
Looking for dick, any size, cut or uncult. You heavey/husky, masculine. Gives verbal abuse/instruction. One time or regular servicing. Me w/ very masculine, goodlooking. 7216.

White Hog Rider
I see you smoking big stoke, it took a lot to say hi and shake your hand. You make me quiver when I see you. I'd move heaven and earth to make you want me, as I want you. If I could, you'd be my lone star. 7217.

Older Men Afternoon Sex
Free in afternoons? Like oral sex. Let me free to my knees and unzip your pants looking for sex. No commitment. Me 5'10", 150#, 37" b/w. You: tall, mature, hung/big balls. 7218.

Ethnic Athletes
Gd/gk Berkeley athlete, 5'9", 154lb#, 41, br/bl, ISO Asian, Latino or African American guys, smooth, under 140, under 40, into fun, sane, sexy high energy wrestling, or just safe sex. I'm cool, friendly, easy going, HIV-, and adventurous. You are too. Beginners welcome. Ebay preferred. 7223.

I'm Single Now, Let's Party In SF
Marnage, no been there, done that. I'm 5'10", 185#, br/bl, smooth body. HIV-. You: Strong, gld/gk, dom. 6 hung, top my bottom & teach me. 7227.

Pyromania
GWM, 29, 5'10", seeks live wire for combustible good times. You bring the spark, I'll bring the kerosene. No dips, icebergs, storm clouds or wet blankets. Let's start something before the fire season ends. 40 or under. 7228.

Can You Come Out And Play
This 30something gay, hairy, goodlooking, in shape is looking for other guys who think sex is a fun adventure best enjoyed when shared. I like it rough and slow, nice and mean, fast and slow; I just like good safe sex. 7225.

Looking For Asian Top
Goodlooking 38yo, GWM, seeking good times w/ an Asian top man. I'm clean-cut, clean-shaven, hairy-chested. HIV-, blonde, blue, and ready for you. 7226.

Educate The Elderly!
Submissive older male is eager to earn Master's degree in sexual service. If you're a macho master under 50 willing to give advanced training to a talented cocksucker/ass licking, please try this pliable, well-behaved Ebay senior citizen. 7228.

Are You Masculine
Handsome and built nicely? Me too! Looking for hot manly sex and maybe a secret affair w/ married bi policeman. I'm obedient, HIV-, discrete, and sport cop shield tats. 7229.

Best Little Cock-Sucker In San Francisco
I love to suck a nice long cock and in turn you fuck me till you cum. I'm a 45yo bottom, 5'8", 130#, well-hung & cut. You, butch, hairy, hung and good looking top. 7230.

Man To Man
GWM, 40, 6'1", 175#, br/bl, seeking hard body, muscular white man into JO 8 man to man action w/ a rub. 7232.

Gambly Sexes Poky
For Bouncy. 7220.

Basketball Players/Any Race
Let me take care of your feet & 3 legs after a hard workout by a healthy safe attractive bi white men in good shape only. 7233.

GAM Cocksucker Seeks Older GWM
For hot time. You must be Chinese or Japanese. Uncut a +, but not a must. 7234.

Well Hung Body Builder
Ebay. Seeks encounter w/ aggressive top(s) for face fucking sessions and more while my wife watches. Must be STD-. 7218.

Ass Worship
I want to look at, touch, squeeze, massage, tickle, probe, spank and screw your horny butt. Me: attract, GWM, 45, 6'5", 250#, football players build. You: attract, GWM, 18-35, slim, smooth to moderate body hair and great buns. You need it badly!! 7236.

Oldfashioned
Seeking super masculine. Age, size, looks unimportant. Be like me into heavy macho dirty talk, intense JO, getting, fucked up (share expenses), minimal oral (me receiving), minimal oral (me receiving), meet my place late evenings. No videos, shaved cocks or anal. 7237.

Hung Big
Hot, 6', 35, 150#, gld/gk, all-American collegiate type w/ gym toned body, hung big seeks gld/gk guys hung as big (or bigger)? 7238.

Chic Center Deep Throat
Seeks GWM/GLM 18-40, w/ 8"+ who enjoys sensual deep throat action. Must be clean, masculine, trim, ND, LTR desired. Married or bisexual welcome. Discreet - no reciprocation necessary. 7235.

Just Arrived Thai Boy
Lonesome, speak some English, 26yo, 5'7", 135#, handsome, hot, sexy, smooth, submissive, prefer GWM, GAM, 20-40yo, good looking, LTR. 7322.

Are You Not Well Hung, But A Great Ass?
If ur 21-36(or look it) W/His/Asian w/ great plowable ass, gym bod, fox, HIV-, healthy, this mass, top wants ur 38, 6', 210#, goatee, br/hz, mod hairy, Tan lines & long hair & plus, fuckable as a must! Sexy buddy or boyfriend, wild 2 mid!! 7324.

Senior Sex? Why Not!
I enjoy individual and group meetings w/ horny, still functional men in their 50's and 60's. We will bodies. Direct contact phone # required. 7325.

V. Handsome Bodybuilder Wants Pussy Cat
He likes to play w/ you till you turn into a pussy cat in heat, pump your face, pin you down and ride you till you cum in ecstasy. You might want him to tie you up and beg him to ravage your ess. BB, 33, Asian/Hawaiian, chiseled muscular build. You: Attractive/fit. 7327.

Feel It
Sexy, 24, 6'1", 175, br/bf, short goatee, shaved heads, incredible legs, HIV-, seeks similar clean, GWM, w/ short hair for intense blow jobs - mutual or one-way(top or bottom). Please be under 30, tall, HIV-. 7329.

Oakland Meets Mexico!
Black top man, mature and hung enjoys mature, masculine, hispanic bottom men. Mustache and husky build preferred. I have a private place, xx, video, erome and a body you will enjoy. Sincere only. 7428.

68 Partner Wanted
Attractive GAM (5'8", 153, 43) smooth masculine body seeks mature discreet GWM w/ masculine, well hung body for mutual oral satisfaction. Your place. 7336.

Bear Lover's Special
Friendly, mass, playful, 40's, 5'10", 200#, hunky, hairy, uncult likes 18-36, slim guys for hot times. Expe/nexpd, singles/couples, gay/bl, vanilla/adventurous. Available most after, many evs. Student or under 5'8" a +. 7343.

Take Charge Top Wanted
Masculine bottom, 53, looking for confident guy safe 40-60, who loves being a top, likes safe sex, dominance, role playing. In-shape cockhound wants to meet up, give and get hot action. 7345.

Seeking Hairy Cops
Discreet GWM, 42, likes to play w/ hairy cops. No reciprocation required. 7326.

Hot, Hairy, Tight Ass
Likes big GWM to plow my man's hole. I like big thick dicks. Available on week-ends. All night. 7348.

GWM, 38yo Very Good Looking
Seeks fuck buddy in Santa Rosa for as eating & hot sex. HIV- only. 7425.

Hungry
BM looking for BM 6' w/ juicy thighs and nice bubble buns. Manly only no fems. 5'10" is cool too. 7426.

GLM Seeks Young Male
Who is daring for adventure yet mature enough to sense a good thing. Funny smart & sensitive. Take a chance. 7427.

Big Curved Noises Turn Me On
WM, affectionate, muscular, hairy, "Daddy", 37, 5'8", 165#, well endowed. Seeking a thin, smooth, clean shaven, Latin or other dark-skinned "boy" w/ a beautiful very large curved nose. Share lots of cuddling, kissing (especially Eskimo style) and hours of mutual oral pleasure. ND/NS, serious & sincere please. 7428.

Tall, Dark, Handsome & Hot
6'2", 190, muscular, 40, top notch daddy type w/ big dick looking for similar versatile for kisses, mutual oral, man to man connecting, hell rising. 7430.

Sonoma County
Discreet, masculine guy, 28, 5'9", ISO, hard, muscular, straight or bisexual guy under 30. One night stand or regular meetings. Discretion guaranteed! 7436.

Only Big Black Men Apply
I'm 6'7", 165#, stocky black brother looking for big black men 200+ for fun, music, cooking, going to sporting events, movies, we'll talk about the rest. Relationship possible w/ right man. 7450.

South Bay
GWM, 35, 5'11", 160#, leather pig bottom. Have sling, like bondage, WS, TT, paddles, dildoes, FF, electric toys and dog training. 7451.

Just Get On It Cocksucker
GWM, tall, lean bearded hairy nasty-talker daddy. 7" uncult, thick big balls ISO HIV+, expert cocksucker. Must give exceptionally good head, DT, endurance oriented. Able to follow orders while blowing daddy. Be in shape, masculine. Stash mandatory. 30-69. 7454.

Service Daddy's Balls
GWM, tall, lean hairy bearded, 40's Daddy is strokin' his thick uncult cock up in his room e +, the cabin. His fishin' buddies stashed masculine older son gets into Daddy's room & lick Daddy's big hairy balls real good 'til Daddy shoots a huge load. Lick Daddy's balls. Call. 7455.

Kinky Fantasies To Explore
48yo WM feels its finally time to explore kinky side. ISO similarly interested men to explore with & find limits. considering CBT, TT, bondage, hot wax & WS. HIV-. Cell, describe your fantasy, leave e +, we'll talk. 7338.

East Bay Late Nite Cock Worship
Mutual obsessive dirty talk, JO scene, maybe oral (mostly me receiving) while getting fucked up (share expenses). Not into videos or shaved cocks. Seeking hung, masculine buddies. Thick e +. Real cocksuckers, not curiosity seekers. 7339.

Do You Have Protruding Nipples?
I'm looking for a guy w/ a muscular body w/ thick, huge, protruding nipples to date, are you one of them? I'm 37, GWM, with a muscular body, fit, is serious, honest and reliable. PIs no flakes. 7340.

Naked Man
Like the feeling of your naked feet on pavement? Like to get naked in public/outside? Like to get naked in your car? If your dick is rising, call me. I'm 38, balding, goatee, 175#, hairy, handsome. You be 25-40, nice looking, athletic body, adventurous. Also into naked feet. 7341.

GWM, 40, 6'7", Top, HIV-
Seeks nasty ass boys who likes it wild and raunchy. I'm a broker for raunchy underwear and the ass that comes along w/ it. Fill your tall, slim or petty closeted scot bottom w/ big balls, have I got an ass fucking for you. 18-35, Latino, BM, A+, be discreet. 7351.

Attention
WM, cut, w/ big clean feet. I love nude men who would love to have feet worked on. A 50's, sizzling hot tongue is here, call now. 7438.

Personal White Male Slave: Wanted
I am cute, dominating, black, gay, master and into having white men be personal slave. My slave has to like me to spanking his ass, pissing on him, talk me out shopping, and doing as I say. I'm sincere and masterly. 7439.

Feet Feet Everywhere
38yo, GWM, seeks, 18-35yo, GWM who enjoys long, slow, sensual, foot massage. Prepare yourself to be pleased in ways yet unknown. 7440.

Muscle Worship
WM, late, 40's, seeks muscular guys of any size into flexing and being admired. Let my hands end tongue worship your body as you showoff biceps, pecs and legs. 7441.

Diaper Fetish?
30yo, GWM, looking to meet other men who get into wearing and using diapers. 7452.

OTHER

Super Daddy
Sugar daddy seeks men 30-45 w/ moustache as companion for gourmet dining, travel etc. 7201.

Castro St. Fair Dilemma
Photo shop lost film (bitches). Seeking to replace photo of drag queen in Leopard print dress, pearls, big red curls, w/ friends/acquaintances. Any fun ones out there? Your help fabulously appreciated! 7202.

Casual Arrangement Sought
Young, cute, tall, slender, and hard GWM desires a generous professional for occasional outings and lots of fun. I enjoy the arts, conversation, and adventure. Your. Wanting adventure, not a relationship. Call me. 7203.

Wrestling Sport Of Kings
6', 180#, wrestler seeks same size guys w/ libido. Clean healthy sport, nobody gets hurt. Both guys win. Friendly muscular guy. Met w/ mmm. I look like Tarzan. Its ok if don't. Jock straps or nude, your choice. 7204.

Toronto Partner Wanted
Dolores Park. Have played one year. Play regularly and learn fast. Want to improve skills and have fun. GWM, 40. 7205.

Seeking Snowboarding Buddy
Snowboarder seeks same for winter shredding - especially weekdays at Kirkwood. I am GWM, 31, int/adv, powderhound. 7206.

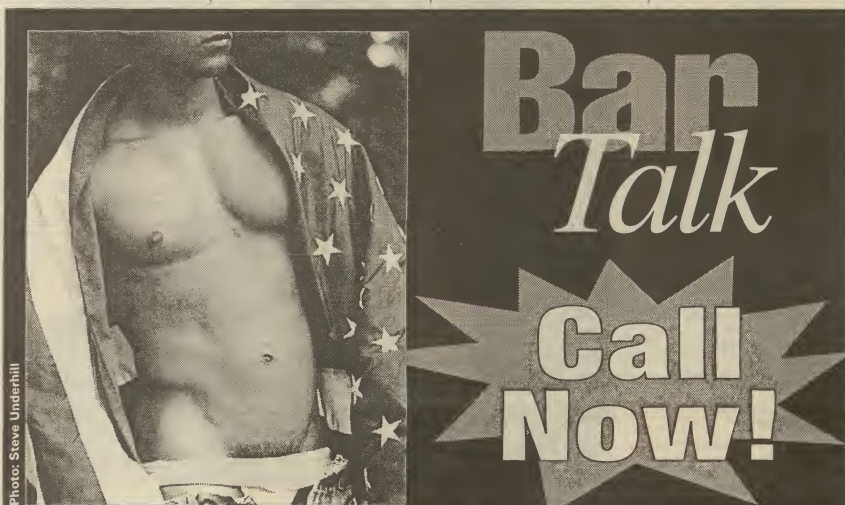
GWM Seeks GWF
GWM, 34, educated & fun loving, seeks similar GWF for mutually satisfying relationship. 7207.

Naked Lunch
Midday encounters sought by healthy, HIV-, tall, hung, good looking mature guys who's experienced. You be above 35, gay or bi and similar. 7342.

COUPLES

GW Couples Wanted
By very handsome GWM, 27, 5'10", 140#, clean-cut, and smooth-skinned. Let me be your live sex toy! 7208.

Hung Couple
Two goodlooking 35yo WMs. Hung big (B+ and C+). Seeks other for group action. Prefer in shape and hung guys. Tops a plus. 7442.



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bottom guys with small dicks and tight butts drive me nuts. I'm a hot, masculine, muscular top man with B 1/2 of thick, hard, throbbing Italian dick. 7328.

Extra Thick Cocks Wanted
Masc, mature, husky GWM seeks men hung unusually thick. Length is great, but circumference is more important. Age & race are not important. I want my mouth or butt served to your satisfaction. 7330.

East Bay Friend
Masculine light BM, 6'2", 180#, humor, 40's, honest, sexy Asian, Latin, Black friends for warm, intimate encounters in Hayward. 7331.

We Three
Me: Italian, attractive, 5'9", toned. Him: Filipino, attractive, 5'5", toned. You: GM, attractive, toned, top. 7332.

Warma Watch?
Kinda nesty, cute, monogamous couple (26 and 35yo) wants to watch end/or show off. Looking for built, creative, nice guys. Limits respected, outside, inside, car! Good locations grove. 7333.

Friendly Versatile WM
58, 6', 165#, Ebay wants regular sensitive fuckbuddy LTR possible. You are NS, preferably slender. All else including age, race are not important. 7334.

P. Rican Stallion, 38yo
5'11", waist, 34, top, looking for a very hot ass bottom that I can dick from 18-40yo, enjoy bike horse riding & mountain climbing, camping, opera, music. 7336.

F*ck Master
If you're a thin muscle guy w/ defined biceps, very arms, and/or washboard, abdominals, I'll play your butt and take charge. All hole fantasies will be fulfilled. I'm 6'1", 165#, 35yo, caucasian, muscular, very sexy chest, dark hair, dark eyes, dark mind. HIV-. 7435.

Black Top Wanted
Need a black dick/body to service. Want to deep throat that hot black cocks and have it up my ass for a good fuck in any or all positions. Swede, 6', 160#, HIV-. Let's talk. 7417.

Waiting To Be Bathed By GWM
This 52yo, GWM has a nice naked body with a 7" dick, pretty ass & gik bells, ch, healthy as well. 160#, brn hair, blue eyes, come bath me. Daddy I'm ready. 7418.

Mound Me And Give It To Me
Br-Asian, 5'11", 182#, HIV-, seeks Asians under 35, HIV-, top/versatile for oral and anal sex! Not looking for a relationship, but a good time. Call now. 7419.

Double Adventure
In shape, top versatile, 5'11", hung big, needs other men (20's-30's) well built, hairy body with a big firm hairy bubble butt to eat end fuck. 7420.

Here Is My Fantasy
I lay naked on my bed. You walk in, grease my men's hole & fuck me all night long. GWM, creative. I like big, thick dicks. BYOR. 7421.

Brave Only
PWA/KS, 38, 5'11", 200#, bl/bl, long hair. Tattoos pierced arctic seeks HIV+/PWAs 4 adventure, sex, outing, nude modeling, fun, emotional support, all outdoors welcome. No negatives, BB or egos please. 7422.

Strip Naked
Free relaxing massage for masculine young guys with tight trim builds by lean masculine WM, 40. 7493.

Exquisite Torture
I'll be you in inescapable bondage while I build your erotic pleasure slowly & expertly. Prolonged bondage & male torture, my skills. I am handsome & in shape. If you are a muscular slut, I will write & sweat in true sexual ecstasy. 7424.

Free Quality Massage
To hot young guys who take good care of themselves. I'm 6'2", 178#, 42, masculine, goodlooking and give strong, safe, genuine, nurturing touch. Table. 7431.

Horny Bottom Wanted
Attract, aggressive top, 5'10", 178#, 38yo looking for submissive bottom 18-30, in shape who wants sex and long hot sessions. Be horny, hot & ready. 7432.

Latin Gay
Mex, 5'4", 37yo, 135#, bottom seeking seeking white tops for fun. 7433.

Wanted: Big Hairy Pecs
Tall, lean, hairy, 40's man w/ talented bearded & mouth full of lip, suck, big hairy pecs/nips. Lean & defined to massive muscle, big arms & pps lapped, nuts licked, expert deep throater. Be butch, stashed, w/ hairy arms & legs. 7434.

Eastbay Submissive Bottom
Very submissive, 100% percent bottom. 5'10", 140#, 29" waist, seeks macho, muscular men of any race who are looking to fulfill their masculine desires. 7437.

21yo, ISO Some Fun...
21yo, GLM, college student, cute, 5'10", 215#, rugby player, looking for 18-41yo GWM/GLM top for hot sexy fun times and/or a possible LTR. 7443.

Expert Tongue Bath
By a good looking, experienced, obedient, pig bottom woman. Head to be service for you and your buddies. Use and control me and fuck my smooth, hungry, slut hole. Groups definitely encouraged. 7448.

Just An Average Oral Personal
Tall GWM late 40's, HIV-, smoker, cute, festive in living, looking for average GWM 38-50 w/ cut tool for worship. Must live in SF proper and into eromts. 7449.

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FETISHES

Exhibitionist?
GWM, 30, 165#, lean, in shape, seeks very muscular, GWM or GLM interested in showing off his well-defined body. Pose and flex for body worship sessions. Will consider fantasy play and pec massage. 7209.

Barrelet
I have enjoyed lifelong excitement looking at and fantasizing about men's barrelet. I'm very aroused sexually safe sexually by kissing, licking, smelling, and caressing barrelet in reciprocal action/JO. Gld/gk Ebay GWM, 5'8", 140#, tan, bearded, HIV-, NA, ND. 7210.

Ouch
Spank me, tie me up, watch me off slowly while looking into my eyes. Cuff boy, 29, 5'8", 130#, seeks handsome take charge man. 7211.

Shit Bottom
Anything goes. ISO wide spectrum total top. Your thing - your way, all the way. No hold/holes barred. Bondage is your guarantee, absolute control. Flog, FF, CBT, WS, Sound, Cat HS, piercing, infusions, TT, all, more, whatever. Attractive fit 58, 5'11", 170#, beard, tats, depththroat, GP, full service. Any age, race. 7212.

Wanted: Sneaker Pig
I want a submissive bottom for this cum service my room and my sneaks. Suck, JO, kink play a +! Leave a message. Big feet a +++. 7213.

Submissive Bottom Wanted!
Kinky slut to service my hole and my rod. Scat sessions to my dung and water sports to quench your thirst. Kink play a +! 7214.

THIS WEEK

Wanna Submit?

Send calendar listings to:

This Week
Bay Area Reporter
395 9th Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Thursday before issue date.

Friday 17

A Bright Room Called Day

UC Berkeley Center for Theater Arts presents Tony Kushner's drama of 30s Berlin. 11/16-19, 11/30-12/3. \$8. 8pm. Zellerbach Playhouse, UC Berkeley. (510) 642-9988.

Brilliant Traces

Encore Theatre Co. presents Cindy Lou Johnson's offbeat comedy, thru 11/19. \$12-21. 8pm. 450 Geary Studio Theatre. 346-7671.

Carnival of Souls

"Mythic Figures in an Urban Landscape," exhibit of 100 human-scale dolls by Cassandra Light and The Way of the Doll School of Sacred Art. Thru 11/19. International Center, 50 Oak. (510) 273-9027.

Cinnabar Cabaret

Ralph Peduto in solo comedy, "Sex, Sacrilege & Assorted Scandals, An Actor's Odyssey." Wed.-Sat. \$15-20. 10pm. 450 Geary. 693-0600.

Comedy/Cabaret

Amy Boyd opens for headliner Scott Capurro. \$3. Club 1220, 1220 Pine, Walnut Creek. (510) 938-4550.

Diva

"Girls, Video and Everything Else," lesbian-produced videos at a nightclub for women. Show, 7:30pm; dancing, 9pm. \$6 before 10pm, \$7 after. 314 11th St. 487-6305.

Festival of Harps

Deborah Henson-Conant, jazz harp, as well as contemporary folk harp and jazz duo, Musica Divina vocal ensemble. 8pm. Grace Cathedral. \$16-18. 759-1028.

Gay Cuba

Documentary on treatment of gay and lesbian people in Cuba since the Revolution, a Cuba/U.S. co-production. \$5-50, benefits lesbian and gay organizing in Cuba. Queers for Affirmative Action. Donations of HIV meds, safe sex supplies, etc. 7pm. Victoria Theatre, 16th St. betw. Mission/S. Van Ness. 282-7231.

A Huey P. Newton Story

Portrait of the founder of the Black Panthers, created and performed by Roger Guenveur Smith. Wed.-Sun. thru 11/19. \$12-23. 8:30pm. Magic Theatre, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-8822.

The Hustler

"(Part One: Twisted)," a multimedia live performance by David E. Johnston, set in the landscape of rural America. Thurs.-Sat. thru 11/18 at 8pm. \$7-10. The LAB, 2948 16th St. 864-8855.

Inside Straight

Two gay men and two lesbians preoccupy luck-drawn love. Fri. & Sat. thru 11/18. \$12. 9pm. Marilyn Monroe Mem'l Theatre, 96 Lafayette. 552-3034.

Interference

Performance with film and physical movement, directed by Judith Pfeifer. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm. \$5-10. Minna St. Gallery, 111 Minna. 775-0874.

Lawrence of Arabia

David Lean's masterpiece in the Paramount Movie Classics Series, also known as "Lawrence the Big Fag." 7:30pm. \$5. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. (510) 465-6400.

A Line Around the Block

Marga Gomez chronicles her father's life as a comedian and impresario in NYC's Latino community. Tues.-Sun. thru 12/3. \$12-14. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Sabrina Matthews

An evening of solo stand-up comedy. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Friday

Cynthia Mowrey, one of the musicians performing in the Festival of Harps at Grace Cathedral.



Photo: Uli Severin

Melrose Stories

In T. J. Walsh's play, the gay-lesbian scene's in the burbs. Town Hall Theatre, Moraga Rd at School, Lafayette. (510) 283-1557.

Meteor Girl

Three comic portraits by Katy Hickman. Wed.-Sun. thru 11/19. \$13-19. 8:30pm. Magic Theatre, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-8822.

Mona Rogers in Person

Helen Shumaker is back for 10th anniversary of her solo show, written by Philip Dimitri Galas. Thurs.-Sun. thru 11/26, various times. \$16-18. 8pm. Cable Car

Saturday

GAPA Men's Chorus and GAPA Theater (Gay Asian Pacific Alliance) collaborate in Words & Music at the Asian American Theater Company.



Photo: Freddie Niem

Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-TIXS.

Obsession

Exhibition juried by Gary Garrels, Chief Curator, SFMO-MA. Reception, 7pm. Tues.-Sat. thru 12/16. Southern Exposure, 401 Alabama. 863-2141.

Orestes

Charles L. Mee Jr.'s adaptation of Euripides' tragedy, directed by Kenn Watt. Wed.-Sat. thru 12/9. 8pm. Nourse Auditorium, 275 Hayes. 243-9895.

Outlook Video

Gay and lesbian news/entertainment video magazine. 5:30pm. Cable Ch. 53.

Speculum Theatre

Writer and cartoonist Erika Lopez and Lesbian Avenger Katie Hern in two nights of queer vaudeville, speculum puppet show. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm. \$7-10. Luna Sea, 2940 16th St. #216C. 863-2969.

Tambourines to Glory

Langston Hughes' rousing Gospel musical, directed by Danny Duncan. Thurs.-Sun. thru 11/19, call for times. \$18-22. 8pm. Lorraine Hansberry Theatre, 620 Sutter. 474-8800.

Saturday 18

Bear Bust

Bears of San Francisco's canned or dry food drive. Beer or soda bust, \$6. 3-7pm. Benefits community food bank. Lone Star Saloon, 1354 Harrison.

The Cost of Desire

"Bondage, black men & auto-erotic suicides," all-male exhibition of b/w erotic photography by Brad Braverman, Rick Castro, Jim James. Sat. & Sun., 1-6pm thru 12/3. \$2. Mark I. Chester studio, 1229 Folsom. 292-3223.

The Desk Set

All-male version of William Marchant's 1955 play examines the corporate closet, directed by Danny Schaele. Wed.-Sun. thru 12/2, tonight at 8pm. \$12-18. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

DragStrip

Drag Kings, Drag Queens, Strippers, Transsexuals & Queer Fetishists, Pussy Tourette, Arturo (Patsy Cline) Galster, Connie Champagne, Elvis Herselvis, Fishstix, more. \$11, benefit for LYRIC. Transmission, 314 11th St. 751-3129.

Fall Fest Dance

Dance for women, DJ Janine, by Bay Area Career Women. \$12. 8pm-1am. Jelly's, Pier 50. 495-5393.

Gay Comedy Night

Michael Rafsky, Darrick Richardson, Scott Capurro. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

The Hail Marys

With See Jane Run, Alternative Music Night. \$5. 10pm-2am. El Rio, 3158 Mission. 282-3325.

In Words & Music

Dramatic & musical vignettes presented by GAPA Men's Chorus & GAPA Theatre. Sat. 8pm, Sun. 257pm. Asian American Theater, 403 Arguello. 681-5041.

Kirsten Flagstad: Voice of the Century

Exhibit on legendary Norwegian soprano on the 100th anniversary of her birth. Thru 12/28. SF Perf. Arts Library & Museum, 399 Grove. 255-4800.

Sat

(Top, left-right) Pussy Tourist Transmission

In the Light

Goya's satirical Age of Enlightenment, Spain, along with Rupert Garcia, Oliveira and co-curator v. Steward. \$6. Museum, 263 Berkeley. (510)

Late Night

Presidential candidates queerfiers movers and shakers Betty P. Nov. \$8. Mid. Cabaret, 358 861-7933.

LYRIC

Young Women hosts Open H. b. trans. 8pm. 127 Co. 703-6150.

Meeting

Gay men, op. 7-10pm. doo. MCC, 150 E.

No Exile

Mythic explosion and exile, a piece written by Ingeborg. Thurs.-Sat. 8pm. Intersect. Arts, 446 Va. 626-3311.

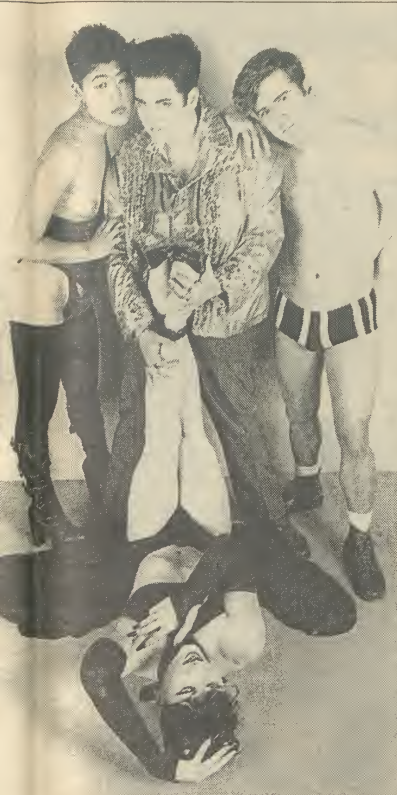
Pumping

Monologist J. reveals the in. lowly copy e. 12/31, call for. The Marsh, 1 826-5750.

Sunday

Avant 84

Exhibition of Charlip, audio. led by Ann M. 8pm. 848 Cr. 848 Divisade



Saturday

Top, left-right) Jade, Elvis Herselvis, Christopher, and (bottom) Pussy Tournette, part of the line-up at **DragStrip** at the Transmission Theatre.

In the Light of Goya

Goya's satiric prints from the Age of Enlightenment in Spain, along with works from Rupert Garcia, Nathan Oliveira and Eugene Chagoya, co-curator with James Steward. \$6. University Art Museum, 2626 Bancroft, Berkeley. (510) 642-0808.

ate Night with Joan Jett Blakk

Presidential candidate JJB hosts queerfolk who are lovers and shakers, cohosts Betty Pearl. Sats. thru Nov. \$8. Midnight. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 61-7933.

LYRIC

Young Women's Program hosts Open House for lesbian, bi, trans, and questioning women 23 and under. 6-10pm. 127 Collingwood. 603-6150.

Meeting Men Party

Gay men, open hearts. \$10. 10pm, doors close 7:30. ICC, 150 Eureka. 239-7839.

lo Exile

Mythic exploration of fascism and exile, a solo theatre piece written & performed by Ingeborg Weinmann. Thurs-Sat. thru 11/19. \$10. 10pm. Intersection for the Arts, 446 Valencia. 26-3311.

umping Copy

Journalist Josh Kornbluth reveals the inner life of a copy editor. Thru 12/31. call for times. \$10-15. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia. 26-5750.

Sunday 19

vant 848

Exhibition of the art of Remy Charlip, audience discussion led by Ann Murphy, free. 10pm. 848 Community Space, 18 Divisadero. 922-2385.

Monday 20

David Barnett

Exhibit of recent chalk pastels and pencil sketches of male nudes, thru 11/30. Moby Dick, 4049 18th St.

Gay and Lesbian Tennis

Monthly membership mtg. of G & L Tennis Federation. 7:30pm. Community Rentals, 470 Castro. 282-2453.

Gay Comedy Open Mike

M.C. Amy Boyd. Aspiring queer comics sign up by phone. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Italian Realists

Exhibit of Realist painters trained at the Florence Academy of Art, thru 11/30. Istituto Italiano di Cultura, 425 Bush. 788-7142.

Betsy Kawamara & Todd Watkins

Collaborative work through photography and assemblage with found objects. Thru November. Mad Magda's, 579 Hayes. 865-7654.

Tuesday 21

Lexine Alpert

Photographs of the predominantly Hispanic East Bay community of Fruitvale. Thru 12/22. Downstairs Gallery, UC Extension, 55 Laguna. 252-5221.

Arcadia

ACT presents Tom Stoppard's play set in two time periods in an English country estate. Tues.-Sun. at various times thru 12/3. tonight at 8pm. \$15-41. Stage Door Theatre, 420 Mason. 749-2ACT.

Asia/America

"Identities in Contemporary Asian-American Art" exhibition. Tues.-Sun. thru 12/10. \$5. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

A Defiant Legacy

Exhibition celebrates 25 years of Galeria de la Raza, thru 12/10. \$5. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

Willem de Kooning

"The Late Paintings, The 1980s" thru 1/7. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.



Monday

"Cast Drawing" (charcoal on toned paper) by Jered Woznicki, part of the **Florence Academy of Art Alumni Exhibit** at the Italian Cultural Institute of San Francisco.

Lesbian Couples

Free four week course on couple relationships, starts tonight. 6:30pm. Everett Middle School, 450 Church. 585-5150.

Quarantined Toys

Wood sculpture by Walter Robinson, and "It's a Beautiful World," new paintings by Evri Kwong. Tues.-Sat. thru 12/5. Morphos Gallery, 49 Geary. 399-1439.

The Transcendental Nude

Paintings and drawings of the human figure. Afternoons or by appt. thru 12/2. Naked Gallery, 355 Bryant, Loft 110. 284-0567.

Women With Balls

Showcase for women stand-up comics, every Tues. 8pm. Cat's Alley Club, 1190 Folsom. 431-3332.

Wednesday 22

Facing Eden

"100 Years of Landscape Art in the Bay Area" Wed.-Sun. thru 11/26. \$5. deYoung Museum, Golden Gate Park. 863-3330.

Gay Skate

Rink full of queers on roller-skates. \$5 includes skates rental. 8-10:30pm. Rolladium Roller Rink, 363 North Amphlett, San Mateo. 1-800-473-8658.

Moiseyev Dance Co.

World-renowned dance company from Russia, opens tonight. Wed.-Sun. thru 11/26, call for times. \$25-50. 8pm. Golden Gate Theatre, 1 Taylor. 776-1999.

Open All Night

Exhibit of photographs from Ken Miller's new collection: skinheads, addicts, whores, thru 1/13. Vision North Gallery, 2300 Polk. 474-4581.

Agustin Pozo

Mixed media assemblages. Thru 11/30, call for times, at Bucheon Gallery on Vallejo, 2537 Vallejo. 863-2891.

Seven Guitars

A.C.T. presents August Wilson's latest play: 1948 African American life. Tues.-Sun. thru 12/23, call for times. \$15-41. 8pm. Marines Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter. 749-2ACT.

Shirley Valentine

Elizabeth Benedict stars as an English housewife who breaks out of the mold. Wed.-Sun. thru 12/3. \$15. 8pm. Mason Street Theatre, 340 Mason. 982-5463.

Thursday 23

Bingo

Gay bingo benefits Coming Home Hospice, every Thurs. \$12. Doors 6pm. Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St. 241-0425.

A False Sense of Well-Being

Ten artists who live and work at Collision: Mark Huckabay, Suzanne Bernel, Alice Lancefield, others, thru 12/2. Collision, 417 14th St. 431-4074.

Lengthening Shadows Before Nightfall

Exhibition of photographs by John Dugdale, thru 12/23. Shapiro Gallery, 250 Sutter. 398-6655.

Andrea Zittel

Three travel trailers designed by Zittel, innovative living spaces on the road. Thru 2/4. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

New! Extra-Value Dinner Specials!



Chicken Fontina--sauteed chicken breast with tomato, garlic & white wine, topped with melted Fontina cheese, over fettucini8.75

Grilled Fresh Salmon on a bed of garlic mashed potatoes with a creamy lemon-dill sauce.....9.75

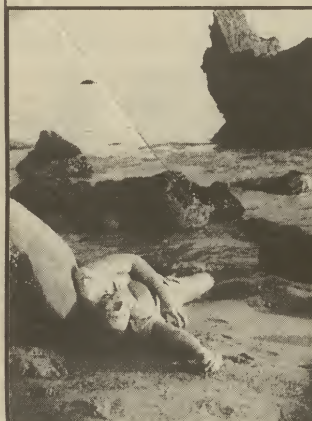
Thanksgiving Day

Breakfast/Lunch from 8:30 am
Thanksgiving Dinners from 4:00 pm
Oven-Roast Turkey or Honey-Baked Ham with apple-raisin dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, cranberry sauce, yams & vegetable.....9.75

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-Kevin Thomas
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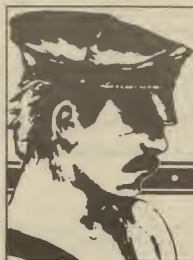
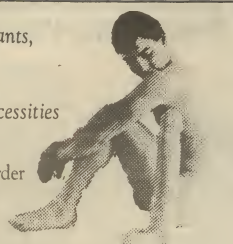
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Image from "SHOPSEX", Bijou Video's exciting new production.

BAY AREA REPORTER BAZAAR

MR. MARCUS

No Room On The Broom

The season of giving is upon us. And depending on who you talk to, the SF Forum and four member clubs, in collaboration with Leather Daddy Cornelius Conboy and Daddy's Boy Steve Crouse, will host a toy drive to benefit children with AIDS. Four drop-off locations for unwrapped toys have been confirmed: Eichelberger's Restaurant; 450 Geary Theatre; the Mr. S store at the Eagle; and Daddy's bar on Castro, where toys can be dropped off up until November 26.

The Constantines will host a beerbust at Daddy's Bar on Thursday, November 16 (from 2000-2300) for \$6 and an unwrapped toy. Next, the Knights of Malta will hold a beerbust at the SF Eagle on Friday, November 17 for \$6, or \$5 with an unwrapped toy. The GDI's are next on the agenda for a toy drive/beerbust at the Eagle on Sunday, November 26. The final one is on Tuesday, December 12, hosted by the Golden Gate Guards at the Eagle from 2000-2300. Bring a nice toy along with your bucks.

As we head into the holiday season, all sorts of things are happening in our community. Back in Washington, D.C., the second oldest leather bar to adopt the Eagle name is getting ready to celebrate its 24th anniversary the weekend of November 23-25 with the annual Mr. D.C. Eagle Leather contest, which takes place Saturday, November 25.

Breaking the D.C.-Eagle's long tradition of choosing the winner by audience vote, producers Vern Stewart and Frank Nowicki have instituted a new judging process. Judges from around the world will be on hand to pick the winner. Last year's winner, Ray Citron, has left the area. No one has seen him nor hair of him since he competed in Chicago at IML last May.

Phones and fax machines were in high gear around the world last week when this column scooped everyone about the results of the Mr. Leather Europe and Mr. Drummer Europe contests, which were held in Amsterdam on November 3. I finally got the pictures for you and I hope you like them!

It was way back in 1988 that a Spanish leatherman got involved in the leather title game at IML. That was the year "Iron" Mike Pereyra won the title. But in that group of 42 contestants, Vicente Jimenez of Barcelona was the first ever contestant from Spain. Vicente made the cut and was one of the 20 semi-finalists that year.

With Antonio Sanchez of



Photo: Frank Nowicki

Here he is! Antonio Sanchez of Madrid, Spain with two sashes: Mr. Leather Europe '95 and Mr. Drummer Europe '95. He's a biker, body-builder, and he's single! Start boning up on your Spanish! He will be in San Francisco sometime in 1996!

Madrid winning both the European leather title and Mr. Drummer Europe titles, the 1996 competition scenario looks very intriguing to say the least. But more on this later.

Before I forget, the proceeds from the September Folsom Street Fair will be distributed in a ceremony (and reception for all the volunteers) on the Eagle patio Saturday, November 18 from 1300-1500. A lot of people made it all happen, so they deserve some appreciation. Expect thousand\$ of dollar\$ to be distributed to this year's beneficiaries: AIDS Emergency Fund, Project Inform, Healing Alternatives and G/L AIDS Resource Center. Here's where all your money is going. Be there and applaud the efforts of the board of directors of SMMILE and all those dedicated volunteers!

In Baltimore last weekend, they selected the 1995-96 Mr. Maryland Leather man, who will compete in Chicago next May. I

promise you photos next week, but for the record, Chad Ellis (also Mr. Baltimore Eagle Leather) won it with Greg Satorie (also Mr. Bacchus) the first runner-up. I'll have photos for you next week - I guarantee it!

Things on the homefront last week were not without excitement. I'm glad I accepted Philip Turner's invitation to emcee the 25th anniversary of his 25th birthday party. A huge crowd of leatherpeople from all over the Bay Area and Sacramento converged on the Eagle patio last Friday night for the festivities. It's always a pleasure to emcee a successful fundraiser, and last Friday's was no exception. Former Leather Daddy Philip celebrated with a big, big turnout. And pre-season generosity was very much in evidence as some \$1200 was raised for the AIDS Emergency Fund.

John Gullotto opened the session with some spiffy C/W numbers that were followed by the reigning Ms. Gay SF, Brittany Foxx, also known as Sister Aura Lee Gifted of the SPL. It was a drag number that elicited tips received by everyone onstage. Profits, of course, were donated to the cause! Bravo!

Next, Nova Lei and the Fantasy Men (Ren McIntosh, Dahn Van Caarz, Jacques Michaels) and fan dancers James, Storm and Panther gyrated, swiveled and tantalized the audience with dancing talent and skin, including the divine buns of Mr. Rawhide Eduardo Manzanares. It was a great production number. Raffle drawings followed and then Tom Rodgers auctioned off three items. Naturally, Empress Donna and Emperor Brian were on hand! It was a great night with lots of friendly and generous people in attendance.

John Caldera, the first Intl. Mr.



Photo: Frank Nowicki

Mr. Leather Europe finalists (L. to R): Ray Lamb of Munich (first runner-up); Antonio Sanchez, the winner; and Frank Betcher of Dusseldorf, second runner-up, chosen November 3 in Amsterdam.

MR. MARCUS



Photo: Lance Brittain

Arlen Spinter, Mr. Oklahoma State Leather '95, of Tulsa won his title over four other contestants on Saturday, November 4 in Tulsa.

Bear, has won a special place on one of my special lists. I'm sure he knows which list, too. He phoned to tell me that the Mr. SF Bear contest was on Sunday afternoon at the Lone Star. When I got there early to watch the football game, I discovered the contest had been held on Saturday! I can't tell you who won, who the runner-ups were, or the names of the judges. Cute.

The redeeming factor of the day, of course, was the 49er slaughter of the hated Dallas Cowgirls. A mere 14 minutes into the game and the 'Niners had already scored two touchdowns, and things only got worse and worse for the Cowgirls before the afternoon was over. If you saw the roof of the Lone Star blow sky high it

was because dedicated 'Niner fans were whooping and hollering and having a great time watching the game on that fabulous 10-foot TV screen. Oh Happy Day!

The Dishcovery Channel

Raymond LeBrun, Mr. Washington State Leather '95, has resigned his title for reasons known only to him. The powers that be in Seattle are definitely *not* amused, especially Carmen Rodriguez. More on this later.

Mike Miller of Boston, the guiding farce, er, uh, force behind the American Leather Man/Woman/Cowboy and Boy is miffed because of what I wrote about him a cuppla columns ago. But Mike, dear, I am only reporting what every disgruntled person in D.C. says about the American Brotherhood weekend, and most of it is not very pretty.

By the way Mike, the people who own Remington's (among others) are still waiting for their money. American Leatherman Greg Lowe is trying to keep his family in Denver together, but it was looking hopeless, as his two "boys" allegedly moved out last week, or were threatening to move out. Maybe we should publicize Sarah Humble's four-page letter to you, Mike, while we're at it. I understand that someone in D.C. is having 50,000 copies printed for a fly-over in which copies will be dropped all over Massachusetts, especially Boston.

Talk about a "pushy bottom": American leather Boy, Kevin McGraw, of Denver, has been expounding to the few who will listen that he has contacted all the "boy" title holders around the country requesting that they "demand" inclusion on judging panels at IML, Drummer, Mid-Atlantic Leather and other leather contests.

Obviously Mr. McGraw is totally unaware of what his title is. Frankly some boys, and note I said *some* boys, should be seen and not heard, and Kevin, you're one of them, damrrrling. According to my brief phone survey last week, "boy" Kevin had not contacted a single "boy" title-winner about this demand - *anywhere*. Maybe we should demand to see his phone bill, which would surely show which boys he called? One of them even volunteered: "I haven't seen him since the Drummer Boy contest when he was so pissed that he didn't win." I see (said the blind man). ▼

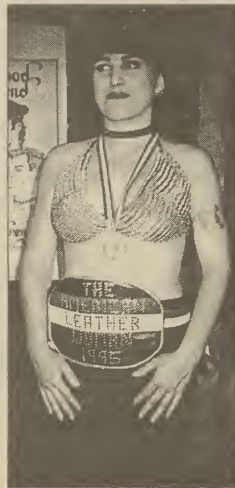


Photo: Vern Stewart

Mon Chere, American Leather Woman '95, won her title in Washington, D.C. at the American Brotherhood Weekend.

a taste of leather

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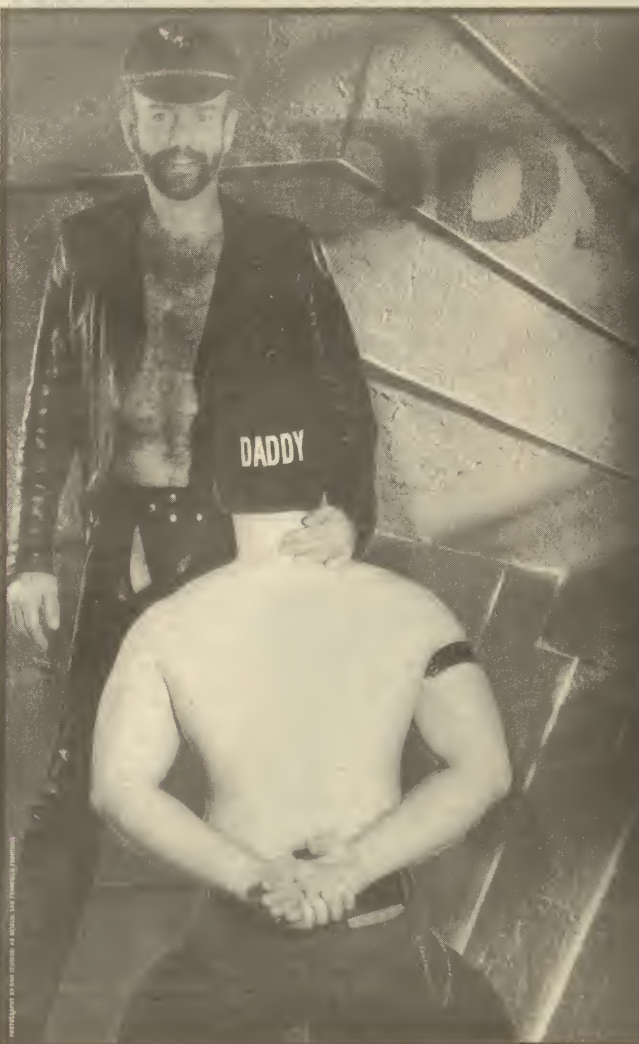
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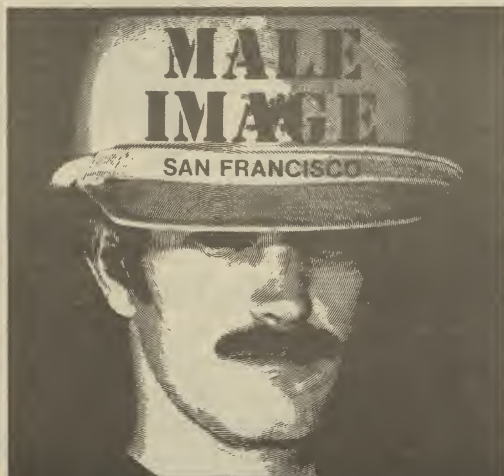
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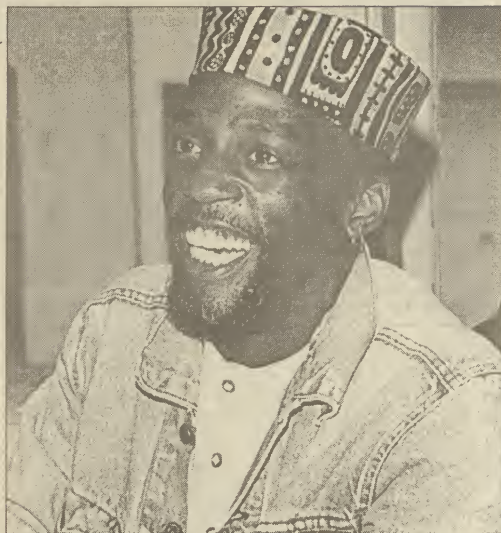
Essex Hemphill: 1957-1995

by Karl Bruce Knapper

The world lost a little more light on Saturday, November 4 when cultural activist and poet Essex Hemphill passed away in Philadelphia due to complications from AIDS. His death has created a vacuum which will be impossible to fill, as he was so much more than the reductionist, simplistic labels: black gay, writer, activist, role-model and friend, words I could easily use to describe him.

I first encountered Hemphill's writing in the landmark *In The Life: A Black Gay Anthology*, a book as awe-inspiring, provocative and revolutionary now as it was when it first appeared almost a decade ago. Like many black gay men, I had ceased to find solace or illumination in books of fiction about white gay men who inhabited the East coast axis of Manhattan, Boston, and Fire Island (and other points of non-interest) and had turned to the writings of women of color — both straight and lesbian — to find the truths for which I was looking.

Then I stumbled upon *In The Life*, and a door opened for me. Like its editor, the late Joseph Beam, I had almost lost hope of ever finding books that spoke specifically to my realities and experiences, but this anthology changed all that by introducing me to the burgeoning world of contemporary black gay writing. Hemphill's work, in particular,



Essex Hemphill

reached out and touched me, uttered emotions, contradictions, frustrations, and joys of my life like nothing had before.

After that I was hooked, and I began reading everything I could find by Hemphill, including his self-published chapbooks *Earth Life and Conditions*. At a reading he gave at Modern Times in San Francisco, I finally met him, and my world has not been the same since. I was your typical awkward and embarrassed acolyte, not wanting to approach the object of my adulation, but he seemed so down-to-earth and considerate that I shed my fears and boldly approached him to say hello and tell him what an inspiration he had been to me.

Instead of saying thank you and moving quickly on, like so many writers of his stature might have done, Hemphill sat down with me and asked if I wrote, and when I answered yes, what I wrote about. He then proceeded to encourage me in my endeavors and asked me to keep in touch, even writing down his address and asking me to send him some of my work. I hadn't expected such an engaging and personal response from someone who had no real reason to treat me with such kindness, but I got it anyway because that was the kind of person Hemphill was. No matter how busy or celebrated he became, he always had time for us ordinary folk who approached him to share a moment of his time.

Hemphill's poetry plays an important part in two milestones of black gay cinema, Marlon Riggs' *Tongues Untied* and Isaac Julien's *Looking for Langston*, both released in 1989. It's impossible to imagine either film without his significant contributions. *Tongues Untied* would not be the same without Hemphill's readings of "Black Beans" or "Now We Think." And without the last-minute addition of more of Hemphill's poetry to replace that of Langston Hughes (when his estate refused to give its permission for use), *Looking for Langston* would not have gotten its initial U.S. release.

But Hemphill could always be counted on to help his brothers when they were in need, even if it meant taking on work himself. When Joseph Beam died before completing work on *Brother to*

Brother: New Writing by Black Gay Men, Hemphill stepped in to finish editing it. He even wrote the poem "When My Brother Fell," which he dedicated to Beam and which explained his unquestioning assumption of his friend's work.

The last published collection of Hemphill's writing was 1992's *Ceremonies: Prose and Poetry*. Though it contained work previously seen or heard in other books or films, it also included many new and wonderful pieces, such as: "Does Your Mama Know About Me?," his controversial address to an OUT/Write conference in San Francisco; "If Freud Had Been A Neurotic Colored Woman," an incisive critique of the writing of noted Afrocentric demagogue Dr. Frances Cress Welsing, or "To Be Real," his illuminating take on the film *Paris is Burning*.

Hemphill was also a recipient of fellowships in literature from the D.C. Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Besides the aforementioned books and films, Hemphill's work was also featured in the anthologies *New Men*, *New Minds: Gay and Lesbian Poetry in Our Time*; *Tongues Untied*; *Art Against Apartheid*; *Men and Intimacy*; *The Poet Upstairs*; *Natives, Tourists, and Other Mysteries*; and *High Risk*. Hemphill's work has also appeared in the *Advocate*, *Out/Week*, *High Performance*, and *Gay Community News*. He also narrated the black gay AIDS documentary *Out of the Shadows*.

As with so many other artists who have been cut down in their prime, we can never know what other works of brilliance and beauty Essex Hemphill might have created had he not died so young. Though he has left us a rich and bountiful legacy of brilliance and beauty, we will mourn the loss of his beautiful, compassionate and loving soul. ▽

A memorial reading honoring the work of Essex Hemphill will be held on December 10 at 4 p.m. at A Different Light Bookstore on Castro St. Readers will include Jewelle Gomez, Thom Bean, Alan Miller, April Sinclair and Brian Freeman. Call 431-0891 for information.

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Thursday, Nov. 16

Constantines MC beer bust at Daddy's Bar from 2200 to 2300 for \$6. Bring an unwrapped toy!

Friday, Nov. 17

Free and anonymous HIV testing at 933 Harrison tonight from 2200 to half-past midnight for men and women. Shouldn't someone be giving Brad Grant some recognition and/or reward for making his Blow Buddies facility available for this service?

The Knights of Malta MC beer bust at the Eagle (2000-2300) will cost you \$6, but if you bring an unwrapped toy, it's only \$5. Always fun with the K of M.

Saturday, Nov. 18

Busy day on Castro with the grand opening (at last!) of Daddy's Bar - the bar you've

all been waiting for! Entertainment on-and-off all day and half the night. Welcome to the neighborhood, Philip Turner, and all those bubbly bartenders!

Golden Gate Guards MC celebrate its ninth anniversary tonight on the SF-Eagle patio by invite or wear your club overlay. New officers. New agenda. Maybe new uniforms? I think not. If you've been invited, you know the time and the rules. Obey.

Bare Chest 1996 calendar men travel to Greg's Ballroom in San Jose to autograph and sell (from 1900 on) the AEF benefit calendar. Keep those pecs perky, guys! They were at LA's Faultline last Sunday, but at my deadline, no details of how they did down there.

SMMILE presents checks to the beneficiaries of this year's Folsom Street Fair at the Eagle patio this afternoon from 1300 to 1700. Thanks to all the volunteers who made the event such a big success.

If you can't make it to all of the above, don your hood and head for the Jackhammer's hood/beer bust party. (Remember: the right clothes *can* hide a multitude of sins!) The crowds keep getting bigger and bigger for this soiree. Only \$5, 1700-2000. Hi, George!

Thursday, Nov. 23

Hey, it's Thanksgiving! Don't eat or drink too much, but have a good time! Gobble, gobble!

Saturday, Nov. 25

Mr. Sacramento Leather contest at the Wreck Room with a leather auction, fantasies, 50/50 raffle. No time on their flier, but it did say, "No politics! Just fun." Oooooohkay!

Picking Mr. D.C.-Eagle in Washington tonight. Frank Nowicki will emcee with Vern Stewart producing. It's the Eagle's 24th anniversary all this weekend, too. If you're in the vicinity, it's the only place to be in the capital! ▼

SWEET LIPS

Vera Rules

Well, I promised to reveal the name of Kimo's new manager in my last opus, so may I have the envelope, please! And the winner is...Ms. Cowgirl Vera! The bodacious bovine should be returning from Boston by the time you read this, so send your best wishes along pronto!

Lots of fabulous people are having birthdays this month, but since I don't know any of them, these few will have to do. Empress XXV Marlana and Emperor XIV Mathew Brown invite everyone to their 56th birthday bash on Friday, Nov. 17, 8 p.m., at Marlana's (488 Hayes St.). The festivities include an open mike show and a bountiful buffet by Jon Fox and Alex Castro.

And, of course, it just wouldn't be the holiday season without my own natal day soiree! Come one, come all, to my 73rd birthday fete at Kimo's Penthouse Showroom on Friday, Dec. 1, 4-8 p.m., with inspired canapes by that delicious Dennis Tyler (no Cheese Whiz on a Ritz for him!) and divine decor by Barton Dreyer. Yes, I am the septuagenarian who has everything, so in lieu of gifts, a donation to the AIDS Memorial Grove would be appreciated. Lots of out-of-towners will be attending my annual bash, including Don Sexton of Port-

land's Silverado bar, so don't miss this chance for some new faces and fresh meat! WARNING: By the first of December, I'll have been on the wagon for a month, and if you think I'm a mean drunk, you haven't lived until you've experienced Sweet Lips sober. Fun, fun, fun! On Dec. 2 yours truly and a gaggle of geezers will be heading to Portland to harass our favorite Oregonians! Beware Mad Mame!

I'd be remiss if I didn't mention that my favorite political prognosticator, the B.A.R.'s own debonair Wayne Friday, will be celebrating one more candle on the cake Sunday, Nov. 26. Birthday greetings also go out to Andy Rodriguez of Welcome Home fame on Thursday, Nov. 30.

On Friday, Nov. 17, at 11 p.m., the sizzling Alexis Miranda and Co. show will grace the stage at Kimo's luxurious Penthouse Showroom. The one and only Montana will be appearing the following weekend, Saturday, Nov. 25, at the same venue.

While I realize it's still a long way off, circle Thursday, Dec. 14, in red on your calendar. On that day Le Salon will be presenting its second annual AIDS Emergency Fund Christmas raffle and auction at the Giraffe from 8 p.m. until the wee hours. Break out the plastic for your fave videotapes and sex-

ual accoutrement. Wouldn't you like to find Hal Rockland under your tree, tinsel and all? Not to mention those Christmas balls, my favorite ornaments. Thanks, Phillip. ▼

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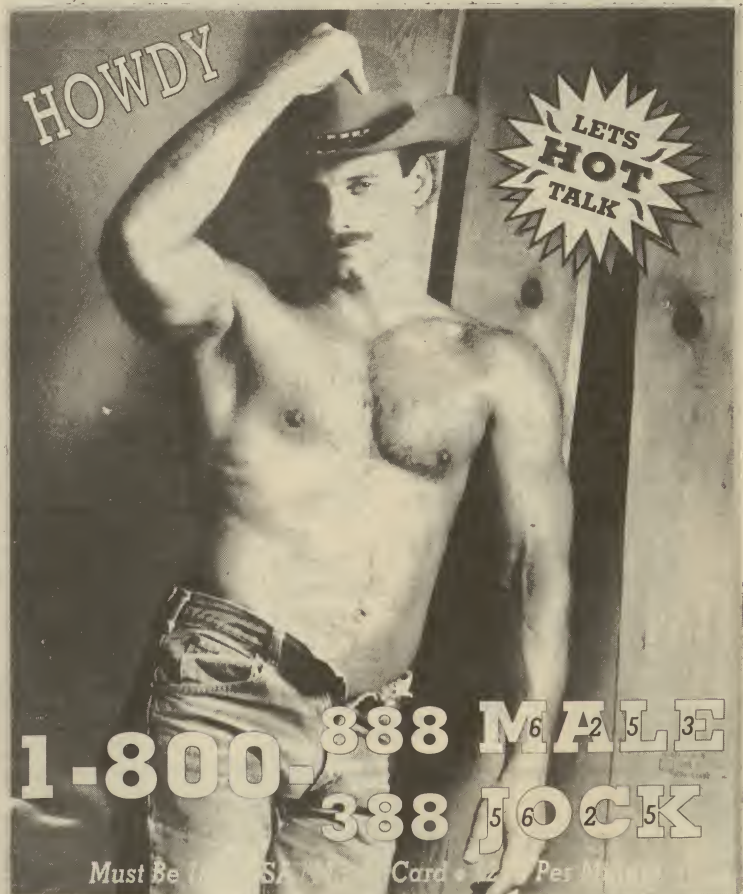


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After 20 Years, A Different 'Drummer'

by Wayne Hoffman

Twenty years ago, long before *Out*, *Genie*, and *Ten Percent* crowded newsstands, a magazine was launched that helped change gay media forever. Dubbed "The Magazine for the Macho Male," *Drummer*, in 1975, held up a new image of gay America: tough, masculine, and sexy. It was the first major leather magazine, and two decades later it remains the standard by which all competitors are judged.

"*Drummer* is sort of like having a crazy aunt who you never wanted around, but you're thrilled they're there," says Wickie Stamps, the magazine's editor. Even if the magazine still isn't likely to turn up on most people's coffee tables, plenty of gay men recognize it as an important and unique forum in an age when most gay magazines are increasingly asexual.

"When *Drummer* began — and I think sometimes this gets forgotten — it wasn't just about tough guys, it was about sex," says Stamps. "*Drummer* has continued to keep sex in gay male identity. It is constantly and continuously and relentlessly about sex."

Twenty years ago, *Drummer* was one of a kind. The images of gay masculinity it portrayed were powerful, its focus on sex was overt, and its leather orientation drew ire even from the gay community.

"When I think back to when we started *Drummer*, we were such a novelty we were watched over by the Los Angeles Police Department," John Embry, founder and former publisher of

Drummer, says with some satisfaction. "It's helped give the gay community a new image. When *Drummer* started, the image was the fluffy sweater and drag, but now when you think of gays, you occasionally think of whips and chains."

But since 1975, leather has become more visible and less shocking to the average gay reader, and *Drummer's* status as a sort of outlaw publication has waned.

"Leather has now become more mainstream," Stamps admits. "Now, someone can dress in leather and it doesn't necessarily mean that's the kind of sex they're having."

In order to continue pushing the envelope, *Drummer* has expanded its focus to include a broader range of sexual fetishes, from bondage to piercing to pagan rituals. Ironically, at the same time *Drummer* attempts to broaden its perspective, the magazine risks losing its distinctive appeal. And while *Drummer* struggles to regain its prestige and influence, other leather and fetish magazines — *Bound and Gagged*, *Cuir* and *Bear*, for instance — proliferate, magazines that have already created niches for themselves in the leather media, eating into *Drummer's* audience. "There are so

many holes that *Drummer* has left wide open," says Embry, "that all these other publications have been able to get started."

Not for white men only

Perhaps the recent proliferation of leather and fetish magazines is not merely a result of *Drummer's* shortcomings, but rather an indication of the diversity of sexual interests now demanding more specific coverage. It would be unreasonable to expect one magazine to cover a

leather and fetish scene that has grown to mammoth proportions, and whose boundaries have altered dramatically.

Indeed, leather and S/M have spread far beyond the images *Drummer* made famous in 1976. Jasmine Sterling, publisher of lesbian S/M magazine *Bad Attitude*, sees connections between gay men and lesbians — and heterosexuals — opening up within leather's newer and broader boundaries.

"We're trying to combine all the scenes into a more pansexual scene, which is good," says Sterling. "People are learning to get along better and communicate better."

Some leather enthusiasts are dismayed by the changes in their scene, however, and argue that greater inclusion and mainstream acceptance only water down the rigidly defined and exclusive subculture they once knew.

The greatest change over the last two decades has been the increasing inclusiveness of the leather scene, once renowned as a bastion of white men.

"One of the best things that's happened in the leather community in the last 20 years is the inclusion of non-white males," says Owens. "And I don't just mean men of color, I mean people, regardless of color or gender or anything else. *The Leather Journal*

was started as a gay male magazine, but over the years it has become pansexual, which means we reach out to everybody."

Lesbian editor

If the racial and gender politics of leather have shifted over the years, the fact that *Drummer* is now edited by Stamps, a lesbian, is indicative of the sea change.

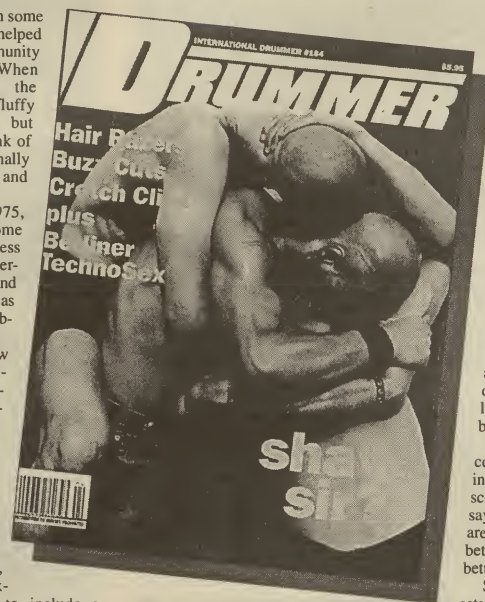
"I sometimes wonder how as a dyke I can come in here," Stamps admits. "But I seem to have a great ability to pick out really raunchy sex stories and images. In some ways, hot sex is hot sex. A lot of lesbians read *Drummer*, because it's really raunchy good sex."

Sterling admits that women might read *Drummer*, or the other men's leather magazines, either because of the hot stories or to learn specific sexual techniques. But, says Sterling, those publications are still fundamentally men's magazines. The real alternative for women, she says, is her magazine, which was launched in 1984.

"The biggest reason *Bad Attitude* was founded was to promote lesbian sexuality, which a lot of people think doesn't exist," says Sterling. "Under my ownership, I've wanted to promote S/M, which is becoming more trendy, but which still isn't particularly acceptable for lesbians. It's always going to be considered bad or rebellious or outrageous."

Being outrageous is part of the point. Even if leather has become more visible since 1975, all of the leather publications have retained their air of rebellion. They aren't intended to fit comfortably beside *National Geographic* on the coffee table.

"There's something this represents," Stamps says of *Drummer*. "It's not a benign thing. This isn't the *New Yorker*." ▼

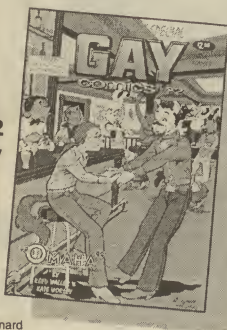


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Haring Triptych to be Installed at Grace Cathedral



Prior to artist Keith Haring's death from AIDS in 1990, he was working on a triptych entitled *The Life of Christ*. After several years of planning, Haring's final work will become a permanent installation at the newly dedicated AIDS Memorial Chapel at Grace Cathedral. On November 17, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., the folks from Artemia, a San Francisco-based public relations firm, and the AIDS Memorial Chapel Project, will host a benefit auction and reception for the AIDS Memorial Chapel to raise money for the installation of the artwork, called the Keith Haring Altarpiece. The auction will be held at Stage Interiors, 541 Eighth St. (6-9 p.m.) and will feature *objet d'art* donated by super glam celebrities such as Bill T. Jones, Whoopi Goldberg, Robin Williams, Madonna, Armistead Maupin and others. (Late word has it that Madonna is fed-exing an item, probably an article of clothing, that she used in one of her movies.) A dance benefit for Keith Haring Project will be held at Club DV8 in the Keith Haring Room, Thursday, November 16 (doors open at 9 p.m.) featuring DJs Jerry Bonham and David Harness. \$7 donation is requested. For information, call 882-5469. Proceeds raised from this event benefit the building of the Keith Haring Altarpiece. ▼

B.A.R. CLASSIFIEDS

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Daddy Will Train Trim Lad in the Art of Obedience thru Bondage and Discipline.
928-7457 • Tom ^{E46}
Free Yoga Class • 487-7662 ^{E46}

FREE MAN-TO-MAN

You pay only Normal Long Distance Charges to Reno, Nevada. We want to give you the opportunity to try our great LIVE, MAN-TO-MAN service.

No phone bill surprises. No catches.
Just fantastic LIVE, MAN-TO-MAN action!

1-0-ATT-1-702-329-9525
24 HRS ADULTS ONLY

SMALL ENDOWED?
Short in Stature? Like Us?
100's SF/Cal/US
SASE POB 610294,
Bayside, NY. 11361-0294 ^{E49}

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TALK IS CHEAP!
3 DAYS FOR ONLY \$5
You'll receive a passcode good for 3 full days of use. Updated bulletin board, live 1-on-1 connections and more...

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LEATHERNECK PARTY!

44 yo 6' bottom beg/mod exp in bondage, SM, Erotic pain visits SF 12/8-9. Seek top for play & expand limits. Please sir: 1255 N. Cherry St #144, Tulare, CA 93274 ^{E47}

Body Trims • Dave • 957-0111 ^{E46}
Massage exchange
332-5800, Ext. 850 ^{E46}
Gay Dateline 18+ \$1.99/Min.
1-900-388-0400, Extension 8613 ^{E47}

Honest, 35, Handsome GWM, HIV-Negative, tender, faithful, travelling, good background, seeks protective, nice, healthy millionaire for serious, sincere lasting relationship. Please send fax to: 011511 438 1506 ^{E48}

I am a male, age 51.
I would like to meet guys 18-25.
(415) 665-6976 ^{E47}

HANDSOME MUSCULAR

Italian 10+ seeks another HIV NEG HUNG 8+ for oral sex.
776-6204, 3-6PM ^{E46}

Seeking GAM w/gymnast build
Like free massage? I'm a tall, muscular, GWM & lov 2 suck/stroke. Pgr #: 560-2690 ^{E47}
Hot Spankings for Guys
20-40. Joe • 558-8828 ^{E46}

SEEKING YOUNGER

I am 6', 182, 73 GWM, friendship oriented, nonmonogamous, daytime type. • 334-3737 ^{E46}
Top FF • 863-0475 ^{E49}

FLORIDA GUY, 43
Looking for son 18-20.
Smooth & serious only
Collect OK
(904) 637-0723 ^{E47}
Thikdadik 4 lite Jok*24 Hrs
Open Wide, boy! (510) 548-0842 ^{E46}

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Soothing, Sensual, Soulful BODYWORK

in Noe Valley
\$40/Hr. \$50/1 1/2 Hrs
NEIL 641-5518

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Built tight, muscular and hung
Blond man, 34, 6', 210 lbs.
Very friendly guys
over 30 preferred
Sensual massage in the buff
\$45 in/\$60 out 24 hrs.

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European Masseur
Strong, Therapeutic Touch
CMT, Non-Sexual
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9 am to 9 pm

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Offers nurturing full-body Massage. Sensuos Swedish/Esalen Style.
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Acupressure
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Tai No
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Professional Weight Training

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MASSEUR offers strong hands, sensitive touch, warm studio.

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Days and Evenings

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Nurturing, Sensual
Healing, Satisfying

STRONG HANDS
SENSITIVE & EXPERIENCED
From Stress Reduction to Simple Relaxation


STEVE C.M.T.
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Swedish Deep-Tissue Massage
Smooth. Swimmer's Build
Defined, Attractive, Exotic
George Hamilton Look-Alike
Steven - 24 Years Old
Outcalls preferred, Hotels
Home (415) 239-4169. In O.K.
A blissful, luxurious, ecstatic,
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Essential Oils,
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Non Sexual
Market/ Guerrero
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BODY ECSTASY

Taoist Erotic
Massage
Sensual-Sacred-Supportive

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Discount PWA's
Castro Location


Jack Walder CMT

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Quality Bodywork

Friendly,
Professional
Nurturing,
Strong and
Healing

Castro in or out
Alan Moore
708-6052
Enjoy Yourself More!




DUTCH MAN WANTED

To translate a short news article from Dutch to English for me and help me draft a response. Call me, toll-free stating your fee: **1-800-416-9811 AFTER 6PM** ^{E46}

Michael CMT

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Handsome, Friendly WM, 32,
Built (5'10", 170#), Great Hands
Gives Full-Body, Swedish
Massage. \$45 In/Out. Marin/SF
Days/Eves. Mike, CMT 388-4583 ^{E46}




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MASSEUR offers strong hands, sensitive touch, warm studio.


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BODY WORK

Matt Flynn-CMT
415.252.9661 **\$35/hr**



STRONG MESSAGE

ON A TABLE IN/OUT
\$40 (510) 234-4880

Nude Massage by Brad, 28 y/o
Straight-Lkg. I/O 715-6410 ^{E46}

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Day Discount 24 Hrs Hot Mass.
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Hot. Certified. - 804-2152 ^{E52}
Sensual Nude Massage • Brad
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Castro Area In-\$40/1 1/2 Hrs.
Out \$50/1 1/2 Hrs. Couples
\$70/3Hrs. Call Bob: 522-2371 ^{E48}

Nude massage by cute guy
5'5" 135 lbs Nice Chest and
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Welcome \$40 Donald 351-2034 ^{E49}

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By Sexy, Well-Built Stud
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Very Handsome, Masculine
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Versatile East Bay Guy
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Great Playtime, Great Body
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GAM \$60 Massage • 292-7115 ^{E46}

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7 Days - By Appointment Only
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Blonde Canadian
A Touch of Class
Turn Your Fantasy into Reality!
Dynamite Massage for a Man
Who Demands Perfection!
Cathedral Hill Area \$45 in - \$60 out
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Leaving San Francisco
This is Good Bye!



Firm and Relaxing

Swedish Acupressure

Full Body
Table
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before 10 pm

Nude Swedish Massage
SENSUOUS TOUCH
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\$40/IN \$50/OUT

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22 yo, fresh from London. Student w/
muscular bod, offering the ultimate in
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\$50 - out. Matthew 781-8224 ext.158

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Deep Tissue Swedish
Prostate Complete Relief
Have Table; In/Out; Will Travel
Bay Area; Have Nice Blue Eyes,
Muscular Build
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Smooth Island Sensation
(510) **293-7862**

Keenu CMT

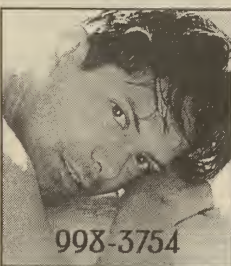
SF
East Bay
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A Superb Massage by a
Strong, Sensitive, Nurturing,
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Massage by Hairy, Italian
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Pete * 285-4652 * 24 Hours



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V-handsome Scandinavian Man,
weight lifter, friendly,
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Especially like small
Asian & Latin men.
Erotic nude massage
931-3263

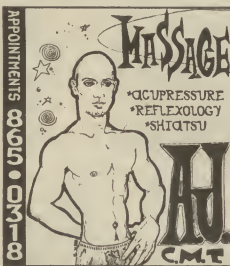
Antonio
Handsome Latino
Hot as a Pistol!
5'7", 140 lbs.
Nice Swimmer's Build, Hot Butt
Pleasing Full-Body Naked Rub

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Nurturing Touch
Healing Experience
Friendly, professional, and in Palo Alto with parking. My
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\$10 per 15 minutes. Call Soon.
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Drisana Energy by 9 yr. cert. professional.
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Available weekdays. \$35/hr. & up.
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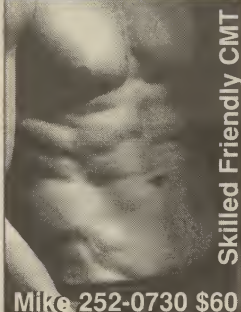


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Skilled, Tender, Fullbody
Swedish Deep-Tissue Sport
In/Out * Ken * (415) 865-0385



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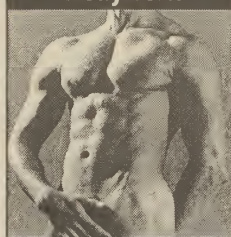


Skilled Friendly CMT

Mike 252-0730 \$60

HANS
NORWEGIAN MAN
Wholesomely Handsome, 33
6', 195 lbs., great tan body
1 1/4 hr. super massage
in nude; Japan Center
\$45/In \$60/Out 24 hours.
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This Body DOES Bodywork

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Great Massage By Hard and
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TALL, DARK & HANDSOME
WELLBUILT BEAR.
COME SNUGGLE WITH ME
IN \$50 FULL 90 MIN.
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BRENT PGR. 245-0236

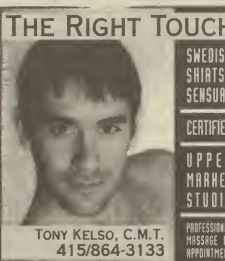
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Full body massage.
Experienced. Certified.
\$40 in, out extra.
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Strong Deep Tissue Massage
Call Robert
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Great **MASSAGE**
by Pleasant **LATINO**
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Enjoy a long & luxurious Swedish massage with
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environment awaits you -- warm, clean, and
comfortable. Certified.
TOM LOMBARDO
553-4073 **New! Castro Location**



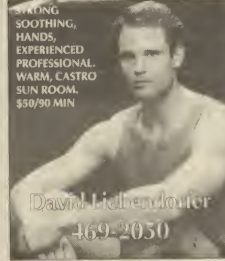
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SENSUAL
CERTIFIED
UPPER
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MASSAGE BY
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TONY KELSO, C.M.T.
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TOTAL! FULL-BODY!
\$20 1/2 Hr \$35-1Hr. In/Out!
Call Charles! Good Looking!
GWM, 51Yrs Young-Tel 928-6393
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Older, Married, etc. Welcome!
Discount-Students, PWA's, etc.

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Older Men Welcome, Hotels
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SOOTHING,
HANDS,
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WARM, CASTRO
SUN ROOM.
\$50/90 MIN
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Sensual, Erotic, X-Static
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Sensual Massage by Strong,
Gentle & Very Handsome Jewish
Pager: 560-0564 * RON



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NON-OIL
BODYWORK
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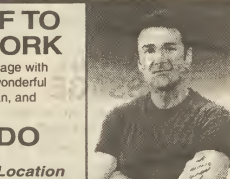
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24 yo., Super Handsome,
Dreamboy Latino
with Gymnast Build,
5'5", 145 lbs.
of Rock Hard Muscle!
Certified in Switzerland
Treat yourself to
International Pampering!
You deserve the best!
\$40/60 Paco 487-9575

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Deeply relaxing and very
effective for stiff neck and
shoulders, backpain, sporting
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I've had excellent training.
Please call for detailed info.
Thank you.

SONOMA COUNTY
35, Bld/Gm Strong
1 Hr. 9 am - 9 pm
Doug (707) 837-8000



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COME MELT!
Castro, Certified \$40
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Complete Body-Rub, \$45/Hour
HANDS-ON Skyler 255-6105

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6+Yrs Exp, CMT, Great Hands
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Very Smith Asian * 560-6353



Relax with an expert Swedish Exalen Massage

John, C.M.T.
386-0152, \$35/hr., \$45/1-1/2 hour
Body Electric Graduate since 1986

TOTAL FULL BODY
By handsome, nice body.
Swedish acupressure firm.
Before 11PM. Table *(415) 863-4422

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\$60 JIM 267-1817

90 Minutes for \$35
Swedish Massage by Good-
Looking CMT 4 1/2 yrs. expert.
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 6 Years Experience,
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BE MANHANDLED
 FULL BODY / EROTIC
 BY FRED OR BUTCHY
 90-MINUTES \ \$35.00
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 \$45/hr
 by
ROBIN LEE
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 *Holiday Gift
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 \$40/Hr PWA Discount
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PAUL 522-1821
 9 AM - 9 PM

**MASSAGE
 by Latino**
 \$45-1 hour In
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 Swedish Massage
 Private Studio 15th/Dolores
 \$45/60 min. \$60/90 min
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 SENSUAL MASSAGE
 SENSUAL, EROTIC, X-Static!!
RELAAAAXXX!
 26 y/o *Sexy* In/Out * 303-9320

Surf with this!
 boy: beach
 attitude: fresh
 massage: erotic
 swedish
 deep tissue
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 Strong, Built, Masc.

Revitalizing Effect
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Mike

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 Full-Body * Page: 373-8570

Warm*Healing*Friendly
 Complete * 773-9130 * Kory

EXCELLENT MASSAGE
 by strong, sexy, 24 year-old
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Massage Play, Snuggle, Etc.
\$40 SPECIAL!!!
 Handsome, hung, Oral XX-Perf
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Full-Body Massage, Swedish/
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 Fullbody pleasure by nice,
 clean-cut man. Table. 837-7516

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Deep-Tissue, Erotic Bodywork,
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Great Touch*773-9130*Kory
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**Sensual Therapeutic Massage For
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 swedish tantric zen shiatsu reiki
6'4" 160 ERIK CMT 824-2667

Sensual Healing Erotic
 Massage by Handsome/Hung
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Gentle Massage by an Altr.
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 Appointment. Prefer SF Only.
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 Instruction. Kala 863-4269

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 MASCULINE * MUSCULAR
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 Full Body Massage
 with Sensual, Erotic,
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 Discounts for PWAs

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6'2", 235 Lbs., Blk BB, Super
 Safe Exhib Muscle Worship
 52" C, 21" A, Mega Dk
11X8" 863-4847
 Or Dble Up With My Tall, Hry,
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ALL AMERICAN MAN
 Handsome Masc Tall Hair
 Equipped and Friendly
 24 Hrs*Chaz*Page: 207-8089

THE 9X7 CLUB
 Hot, Sexy, Handsome Stud
 Experience the Total Package
 Nice Body & Great Personality
 Dominant Top. Available 24 Hrs.
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9X6-24 HOURS
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Private J/O Strip Show
 Rates adjust to time.
 10-15 minutes \$20 (In only)
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 Tall Lean, Hung MATT 552-7224

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HIRED MAN
 6'4" 195# Blond/Blu Hair
 Pretty Hose & Lug Nuts
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ITALIAN STUD - NEW AD.
 Tight built, laid-back, lean
 smooth & Masculine. Best of All,
 HUNG ... LIKE A STALLION!
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 BRATWURST**
 Handsome 27, with a passionate touch
 for your unabashed pleasure.
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 \$55/ 1hr. \$70/90 min.
 Sliding Scale for PWA
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 Happy Hour 11 to 5

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 Gets naked to massage you
 from head to toe - 24 Hrs
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 Given by 26 Y/O Student
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Bay Area's Only Men's
 Massage Exchange Club.
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TEDDY BEAR!!
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 BLACK POWER!**
 \$50/Out, Hot, Hard Muscle
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East Bay Jock, 30, 6', 175 Lbs
 Swedish Nude Massage
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 Gorgeous 18 y.o., Blond/Blue
 Lean, Smooth, Well-Hung
 70-100 * Byron * Pager 245-4325
 If you're looking for a clean Buz
 cut top of 22, sexy, friendly and
 energetic, call Jason
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 6'3" 195 LBS., BR/BLU
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PARTY GUY "9"
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6'2", 185, strong, gymtuned
master into all aspects &
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S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunch.
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FRAT MAN
Masculine, Horse-Hung Jock
Athletic Build • Friendly
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9X7 In. Bucking and
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Call: 626-7684; Page 220-6329

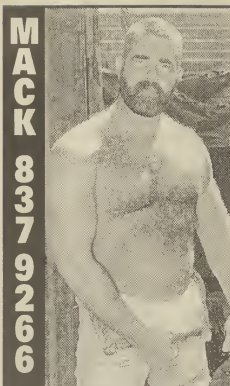
Very Handsome, Sexy, Jewish
Gorgeous Butt, Eyes & Lips
Well-Equipped, 5'11", 165, 29 y/o
Mainly Top, but Versatile
Ron 560-0564 Page me Twice

MUSCLE-DAD
6'3" 220 Lbs of Pure Muscle
TRUE HUNG 9X6" UNCUT
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Massage 'n' Play, Handsome,
Muscular, 8 1/2. When a man
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Asian Top Anal Master
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If Looking for a Hot Time
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Watch me strip at your place.
Enjoy the show as I sit on your
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Drug Free. Pager: 280-8002

Affectionate, Sexy, Fun
Nice Guy, Nice Equipment
40, Brown Hair, Hazel Eyes
\$100. Page: 406-8909

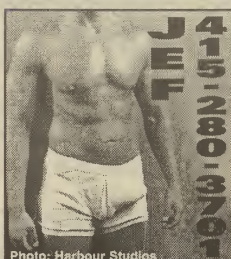


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22 Year Old 5'11" 160 Hot Switch
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Sexy
Asian**
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**4 Latinos
21 year olds
New!
\$60 Out-In
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Goodlooking guy, friendly
swimmer's build. Before 11PM
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Distinguished Age 40
Handsome Hung 8" & Thick!
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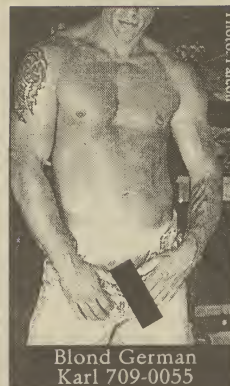
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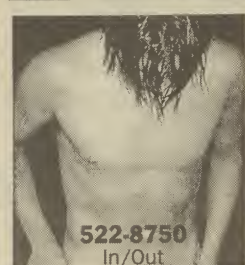


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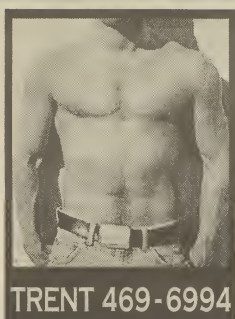
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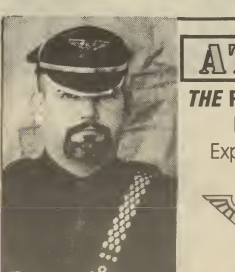
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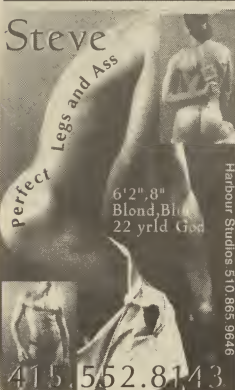
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